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Inter-Arab Affairs

Hassan: Committee Lebanon's 'Last Opportunity'

LD0606231289 Rabat MAP in English
1200 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Rabat, June 6 (MAP)—King Hassan affirmed here Monday that the Lebanese problem is Arab-Arab, that it can only be settled in an Arab-Arab context and that the setting up of the Tripartite Committee, mandated by the extraordinary Arab summit of Casablanca with settling the Lebanese issue, is "a decisive phase and provides to the Lebanese people the last opportunity to come out of the crisis. It is a precious opportunity... it is the last".

At a press conference he held here Monday, in the wake of the first meeting of the Tripartite Committee, formed of King Hassan II, and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria, the sovereign launched an appeal to all Lebanese urging them to trust the committee's action and to extend it the necessary assistance to help it fulfill its mission.

Addressing more particularly the Lebanese youth, King Hassan II urged them "to definitely forget the past, to forget even yesterday... for these youth are called to reconstruct, to rehabilitate Lebanon".

"This reconstruction exacts from each Lebanese citizen, whether a politician, a civil servant, a trader, a civilian or a military, to erase from his memory this past", the sovereign stated pointing out that "if Lebanon is determined to recover, to become again the Lebanon of past times, the Lebanon of culture, of freedom of press, of printing and distribution, the Lebanon of heritage revival... the Lebanese citizens", and particularly the youth must get rid of the sad memories.

King Hassan II also urged all Lebanese "regardless of the group they belong" to be convinced that "there is nothing more dangerous than the partition of Lebanon".

The partition idea, he said is a serious mistake, because this partition cannot take place. "Lebanon is an entity recognized by the Arab League, the United Nations and international organizations within its internationally recognized borders... the partition dream and idea will only be an obstacle delaying the expected results" King Hassan II said.

Affirming that the Lebanese problem is "Arab-Arab" and that it could only be settled in this context, the sovereign pointed out that the committee was seeking the backing of all leaders of the world but without any interference in Lebanon's internal affairs.

King Hassan II on the other hand underlined that Arab countries ask for "the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon" specifying however that there is no comparison between the presence of Syrian troops and that of Israeli troops. "Israeli troops must necessarily withdraw from Lebanon. Syrian troops must assume, in a first stage, some responsibilities, for if Syrian troops came to withdraw suddenly, we will be facing a catastrophe worse than the one we are living... Syrian troops withdrawal must be carried out in brotherhood and understanding, and progressively so that the Lebanese state takes in hand, on the level of political sovereignty and territorial sovereignty, the responsibility of its country with regard to the democratic institutions,... and to the territory's security", King Hassan II said.

The sovereign again called on Syria and Iraq to help the Tripartite Committee fulfill its mission, announcing that as soon as the committee's mission ends, it will summon an Arab extraordinary summit to apprise it of its results.

"If, God forbids, we came to fail, we would clarify things and would not hesitate to point at those hindering our action... in a spirit of brotherhood and sense of responsibility", King Hassan II said.

Dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict, King Hassan II said Europe has behaved well with regard to the Palestinian issue as well as to the Lebanese crisis.

As to the international peace conference on the Middle East and Israel's obstacles to any process leading to this conference, King Hassan II affirmed that this conference "will be held" and that is "the best means to reach a comprehensive and total solution" adding that the current rapprochement between the United States and the Soviet Union is likely to facilitate the holding of the conference.

"To mark the interference of all these affairs, we will visit the capitals of the permanent members of the Security Council", King Hassan II said.

GCC Foreign Ministers Begin 31st Session

LD0606213189 Kuwait KUNA in English
1436 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Jeddah, June 6 (KUNA)—Foreign ministers of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states began their 31st session here today under the chairmanship of Bahrain's Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah.

In an opening address, Shaykh Khalifah said the session is being held in the framework of "The Gulf family to continue steps to realise our ambitions."

He spoke of distinguishing signs of the GCC record such as the economic declaration at Riyadh's GCC summit and the Manama summit declaration.

He affirmed comprehensiveness and integration of events in the Gulf Cooperation Council states in all fields and urged the concerned ministerial committees to take the necessary steps to implement the eighth article of the unified economic accord to realise the principle of nationality in terms of economic integration.

Shaykh Khalifah said the GCC experience is not remote from that of the Arab states, adding first steps should be taken to coordinate with the Arab Cooperation Council and the Arab Maghreb Union since the three groups represent a new form of joint Arab action.

He made note of Egypt's recent return to the Arab fold and affirmed the Arab leaders' support to the Palestinian intifadah [uprising] and the setting up of a Palestinian state as well as backing to decisions taken by the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers to ensure the Palestinian rights, including establishment of an independent state on their national territory.

Shaykh Khalifah expressed hope that all Lebanese parties would respond positively to efforts of the Tripartite Arab Committee, formed by the recent Casablanca Extraordinary Arab Summit from custodian of the two holy mosques King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Moroccan King Hassan and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, to bring about rapprochement and national unity in Lebanon and enable it to preserve its sovereignty on all its territory.

He referred to the situation between Iraq and Iran and recalled the full solidarity shown by the Casablanca summit towards Iraq to preserve its unity, territorial safety and to bring about durable and comprehensive peace in the region.

Shaykh Khalifah expressed hope that the future of GCC states and peoples will be bright and will be one of welfare and progress.

Later, the ministers met behind closed doors.

The GCC comprises Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

GCC Head on Iran, Gulf Region

LD0606221589 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] foreign ministers meeting ended the proceedings of the first session of its 31st meeting this afternoon. The ministerial meeting is due to resume this evening. His Excellency 'Abdallah Yaqub Bisharah, the GCC secretary general, stated that economic, juridical, educational, and administrative topics, as well as other procedural matters within the GCC's purview, were all examined during the first in-camera session.

Replying to a question on the current Gulf countries' relations with Iran, the secretary general said that the Gulf countries have constant principles in this matter drawn up by the summit. These constants mean, notwithstanding the regime in the region, coexistence must be based upon mutual respect, noninterference in navigation, and respect for regimes, relations, and mutual interests. These constant rules should govern relations in the region.

Concerning the future of the Gulf region, he said: I am very optimistic and I see good signs on the horizon.

Islamic Affairs

ICO Protests Zionist 'Violence' in Territories

LD0306204389 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] Jeddah, 3 Jun (SPA)—The Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] General Secretariat has expressed its strong concern about the escalation of violence and of savage excesses and aggression practiced by the Zionist enemy against the citizens in the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly forcing the Palestinian workers to wear a distinctive mark on their chests.

In a statement issued today, Saturday, by His Excellency the Secretary General Dr Hamid al-Ghabid, the Secretariat said: "These practices are a kind of racial discrimination, a violation of all values and an insult to human feelings."

The ICO secretary general condemned the action of Israeli soldiers in tearing up copies of the holy Koran, and said: "This is another crime to be added to the series of criminal aggressions which Israel has practiced and is still practicing against the Islamic sanctities in occupied Palestine, at the forefront of which is the desecration of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, the first of the two qiblahs [niche in mosque denoting direction of Mecca].

Dr al-Ghabid called on the United Nations, the Security Council, and the international community to intervene quickly in order to put an end to Zionist arrogance, which has gone too far and which has exceeded all limits and values by its violation of the principles of human rights, all international charters, and all internationally recognized values. He also called on the international community to move in a strong and coordinated way in order to provide international protection to the Palestinian people and to enable them to practice their inalienable national rights by forcing Israel to withdraw from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and respect and implement the various international resolutions in order to establish a just, comprehensive, and durable peace in Palestine and the Arab region.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO Seeks U.S. Clarification on Elections

TA0606170489 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 4 Jun 89 pp 1, 2

["Exclusive" AL-QUDS report]

[Excerpt] Paris—A Palestinian official has revealed that the PLO leadership has sent a message to the U.S. Administration—the first of its kind—containing a number of questions about the plan of holding elections in the West Bank and Gaza, in which it asked the U.S. Administration to define its positions clearly on some issues related to the elections before the Palestinian leadership decides to go ahead with the election process.

The Palestinian official affirmed that the U.S. response to this Palestinian message will be discussed during the meeting that U.S. Ambassador to Tunis Robert Pelletreau will hold with a high-ranking Palestinian delegation next Thursday [8 June]. The senior Palestinian official explained that the Palestinian leadership had informed the United States from the beginning that if this election process were to end by only granting the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza self-government, then the Palestinian leadership will reject and oppose the elections, with the support of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab lands.

AL-QUDS has learned that the Palestinian leadership's message to the U.S. Administration included the following major questions:

1. What is the U.S. Administration's perception of holding elections in the West Bank and Gaza, and how can, in the view of this administration, the holding of democratic and free elections, separated from the presence of Israeli occupation authorities, be ensured? And what is the appropriately proposed international supervision for these elections?

2. Does the U.S. Administration support the participation of the Palestinians of East Jerusalem as well as West Bank and Gaza Palestinians living abroad in these elections?

3. How does the U.S. Administration perceive the establishment of a close link between the election process and the transitional phase that will follow, as well as between a final settlement on the status of the West Bank and Gaza and overall Palestinian control?

4. What is the precise U.S. definition of the term achieving the political rights of the Palestinian people, and how can, in the view of the U.S. Administration, the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state, be achieved?

5. How does the U.S. Administration intend to translate, in a practical and tangible manner, its commitment to the principle of land in return for peace, its commitment to consider Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as the basis for a peaceful settlement, and its commitment to reject the annexation of the West Bank and Gaza to Israel?

6. The U.S. Administration says that it welcomes the convocation of an international peace conference if this conference is well prepared and organized in advance. What does this mean in practice, in what situation does the U.S. Administration see the need for convening an international conference, and what is the U.S. Administration's perception of such a conference and the parties that will participate in it?

7. What are the steps and measures the U.S. Administration intends to adopt in order to create a suitable climate for holding elections in the West Bank and Gaza, and how can these steps and measures include putting an end to Israeli practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories?

8. To what extent is the U.S. Administration committed to launching a peace process that includes termination of Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, realization of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, and achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East? And what is the PLO's role in such a process?

The senior Palestinian official noted that the U.S. response to these Palestinian questions will be conveyed by U.S. Ambassador Pelletreau, and that he will discuss this response with the Palestinian delegation in Tunis next Thursday. The Palestinian delegation in this meeting will be headed by PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh. The senior Palestinian official pointed out that the Palestinian leadership will determine its position regarding the election process in the West Bank and Gaza in light of the U.S. Administration's replies to these questions.

This Palestinian official said that the Palestinian leadership has informed the United States and other international parties that it will flatly reject the election process in the West Bank and Gaza if this process is confined only to granting self-government to the Palestinians in the territories, and if it is not explicitly clear and guaranteed from the beginning that the elections will be an integral part of a comprehensive peace process that aims at liberating the Arab lands, ensuring the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, and establishing two states on the land of Palestine in accordance with the Palestine National Council resolutions in Algiers and the Casablanca summit resolutions of last week.

This Palestinian official also pointed out that during its talks with the U.S. side next week, the Palestinian leadership will insist on the need to hold the elections under appropriate international supervision, separate from the presence of the Israeli occupation authorities. Moreover, it will insist on the need for the participation of the Palestinians of East Jerusalem as well as those residing abroad in these elections. The Palestinian leadership will also emphasize that any peace process should lead to resolving the Palestinian problem in all its aspects, not just the West Bank and Gaza. It will also stress the need for PLO participation at all stages of a settlement.

The senior Palestinian official said that the third round of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue next week will be extremely important, because it will clearly show whether the Bush administration is actually serious in launching a real peace process that will lead to resolving the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict in their various aspects, or it intends only to stop the intifadah [uprising] and achieve limited self-government for the Palestinians. [passage omitted]

Further on Message to U.S.

JN0606173789 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Brothers, the message the PLO leadership sent to the U.S. Administration which contains a number of important and sensitive questions clearly reflects the ambiguous U.S. position over a number of basic issues with a direct connection to the developments of the Arab-Israeli conflict in general and the Palestine question in particular. The message comes 3 days before the third round of U.S.-Palestinian dialogue and amid intense international efforts to get the peace process started in the region. The most important points of the message are represented by the PLO's demand from Washington for a precise definition of the expression "the Palestinian people's political rights" and its position on the national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and to establish their state.

At this stage in particular, it is necessary to have a clear and well-defined U.S. position on the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination—rights which the United States considers necessary for all people. The fact that the United States has not specified a clear position on this issue has caused—and will cause—great difficulties in pushing the peace process from stagnation and immobility to action and intitiative. This is on the one hand.

On the other hand, the message contains a specific question on the measures and steps that the U.S. Administration intends to take to translate the principle of land for peace and an end to the occupation. This question leads directly to another the PLO leadership posed to the U.S. Administration on convening the international conference and its actual commitment to launching a peace process that includes ending the occupation and the PLO's role in such a process.

These Palestinian questions arise have risen from the lack of a well-defined and clear U.S. policy on the peace process. There are general proposals over basic international principles such as trading land for peace and ending occupation which the United States places on an equal footing with its rejection of establishing an independent Palestinian state. The absence of the necessary U.S. position is highlighted by the clear stands announced by the EEC countries, which link ending the occupation with the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. This link forms the basis of international legitimacy.

The time has come for the U.S. Administration to define—with full clarity—its positions on some of the basic and essential points in the Palestinian message. Answering this message means clearing the ambiguity surrounding the peace process and, therefore, ending the stagnation and immobility shackling the political activities.

'Arafat Holds News Conference in Kuwait 6 Jun

JN0606161089 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Jun (INA)—State of Palestine President Yasir 'Arafat has stated that the intifadah [uprising] will continue, tide after tide, until the Palestinian flag is raised over Jerusalem, the capital of the State of Palestine.

In a news conference here this afternoon, he said the Israelis will not be able to defeat the intifadah, and that it has been decided to continue it. The intifadah, he said, is an integral part of the Palestinian cause and the PLO.

'Arafat pointed out the crimes perpetrated by the Israelis against the sons of our Palestinian Arab people and the pressures that drive them to use arms in their intifadah. He stressed that patience has its limits and that the State of Palestine is a stone's throw away.

He said the number of Palestinian martyrs amounted to 783; the number of wounded to 40,000 including 6,000 disabled; and the number of detainees to 50,000, of whom 32,000 are still in prison. This is added to the economic destruction from which our people are suffering, 'Arafat said.

He said the Palestinian position on Lebanon has not changed. We support the return of a unified Lebanon—people and institutions—and the achievement of Lebanon's security and stability, 'Arafat said. If we sell Lebanon out, he added, we will sell out other Arab countries; one Palestine is enough for the Arabs.

'Arafat touched on the Syrian role saying that there are more than 1,000 Palestinian detainees in Syrian prisons. The Syrian authorities, he added, also confiscated the property of a number of Palestinians.

He stressed that the direct dialogue between the PLO and the United States is continuing, pointing out that a new round of talks between the two sides will be held in Tunis Thursday [8 June].

'Arafat said the Palestinian state is a right to be attained, not something to be given. He called on the U.S. Administration to deal with the Palestinians in light of their recognition of full rights.

The Palestinian president spoke about his visit to Kuwait and his meeting with the amir and heir apparent. The aim, he said, is to discuss all important and fateful developments of the Palestinian and Arab causes.

'Arafat earlier met with Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim Al Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, and discussed with him the latest developments in the Palestine question.

Further on News Conference

JN0606175589 Manama WAKH in English 1650 GMT 6 May 89

[Text] Kuwait, June 6 (GNA)—Syria, in the person of President Hafiz al-Asad, has endorsed all Palestinian political initiatives launched by the PLO at the present time, the president of Palestine said here Tuesday.

Yasir 'Arafat told a news conference that Al-Asad dropped, during the Casablanca Arab summit of last month, all reservations and notes placed by his Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' on Palestinian initiatives.

'Arafat added that his organization badly needed funds, confiscated by the Syrian Government, saying the PLO had spent two billion dollars over the past 10 years compared with 1.7 billion received from Arab states, with a 300 million dollar shortfall drawn from monies collected from Palestinian workers.

Turning to Lebanon, 'Arafat said the PLO is for "A single and united Arab Lebanon and supports Lebanon's security and stability."

He said Lebanon has been the victim of a plot to partition it into cantons.

'Arafat said his visit to Kuwait is meant to inform H.H. the amir and the Kuwaiti leadership on the outcome of his mediation between Mauritania and Senegal, together with latest Palestinian developments, particularly the Palestinian intifadah.

'Arafat thanked the amir, Kuwait Government and people for their generous support of the Palestinian people and their cause.

'Arafat said he has asked H.H. the amir to order collection of one day's pay within two months' time from Palestinians residing in Kuwait, besides their regular financial contributions to the Palestinian intifadah.

The PLO chairman praised the participation of Kuwaiti martyr, Fawzi 'Abd al-Rasul al-Majadi in Sunday's commando raid on Israeli target in occupied Palestine, saying Fawzi's blood has mixed with that of the two Palestinian martyrs, who died with him in the operation.

He said the armed struggle against the Israeli occupation would go on, through the emphasis at the present time has shifted to the intifadah.

He disclosed that he has come under growing pressure to sanction the use of arms by Palestinians to confront Israeli crimes, particularly armed settlers.

Replying to question from KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY board chairman and director general, Bargis Humud al-Bargis, 'Arafat denied "he was rushing to reap the fruits of the intifadah while Palestinian protestors inside the occupied territories are prepared to keep demonstrating till victory is achieved."

'Arafat said 782 Palestinians have died in the intifada, 40,000 injured including 6,000 maimed and 50,000 detained of whom 32,000 are still in jail.

The Palestinian leader wished the Iranian leadership success in overcoming all problems that might follow the passing away of Ayatollah Khomeyni.

DFLP's Hawatimah on 'Commando Operation'

LD0606224189 Kuwait KUNA in English 1020 GMT 6 Jun 89

[By Talal Kayed]

[Text] Damascus, June 6 (KUNA)—Secretary General of the Democratic Front for Liberation of Palestine Nayif Hawatimah has asserted that a recent commando operation by two Palestinians and a Kuwaiti against Israeli occupation represented "national scope of the rightful pan-Arab cause."

Two Palestinians and a Kuwaiti, identified as Fawzi Majadi, members of the DFLP, last Sunday [4 June] launched a commando attack against the Zionist enemy in occupied Palestine.

The three fighters were martyred in the operation, code named "Nabulus Martyrs". The DFLP claimed responsibility for the attack.

Interviewed by KUNA today, Hawatimah said the operation which "grouped Palestinian and Kuwaiti elements was a real expression of the national dimension of our joint Arab cause."

"I would like to say to Kuwaiti people that we would continue, shoulder-to-shoulder, our national policy to defend Palestinian and Arab rights", he said.

Hawatimah indicated that the attack targetted the Israeli enemy's troops and installations in the upper Galilee, and that it reiterated the right of our people for armed resistance against occupation forces.

He pointed out that the Palestinian Central Council's session last April has affirmed "the right of all PLO factions for armed resistance to disintegrate the enemy's powers and reduce the pressure on the intifidah [uprising]."

The DFLP leader called on the U.S. Administration to clearly determine its interpretation of the Palestinian political rights and work towards realizing a comprehensive settlement and convening the international Mideast peace conference.

He stressed that such a position was necessary "so as to end any maneuvers aimed at ridding Israel of present critical situation imposed on it by the Palestinian intifadah. [no closing quotation marks as received]

Hawatimah said the Palestinian side to the PLO-U.S. dialogue is capable to confine the American side to "a narrow corner" by asking for "frank and definite answers on the ambiguous statements and slogans the U.S. Administration was announcing".

He believed that a dialogue between the PLO and Syria would begin shortly, saying that the resolutions of the recent emergency Arab summit in Casablanca represented "a joint [words indistinct]" for the two sides.

Hawatimah asserted the need for normalization of relations between the PLO and Syria and said "It was unacceptable to see continuous negotiations between the PLO and the U.S. and between Syria and the U.S., while there was no similar negotiations between Syria and the PLO."

Hawatimah disclosed that consultations were currently under way to reach an agreement so as to start the Syrian-Palestinian dialogue within the coming few days without preconditions from both sides.

He praised the resolutions of the recent emergency Arab summit and described them as "a great step towards the right national trend." "The resolutions on Lebanon's crisis and those on the Iraq-Iran war will open avenues to ending inter-Arab disputes and restoring the effective Arab solidarity."

Hawatimah hoped that the summit's resolutions would be implemented, the Lebanese crisis be solved and the Syrian-PLO relations be normalized.

PFLP, RPCP Urge Escalation of Struggle

JN0606182789 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] in the occupied territories has issued a political statement in which it said the intifadah [uprising] should be supported and escalated. It also called for a struggle for the greatest possible democratic reforms within the PLO's institutions and for purging corruption from them.

The statement termed the dialogues which the enemy is holding with Palestinian personalities in the occupied territories as an attempt to weaken the cohesion of the unified national stand and to deceive the world into believing in the enemy's good intentions, with the aim of weakening the Palestinian people's position on representation. It added that it has become essential to boycott these dialogues completely.

The Revolutionary Palestinian Communist Party [RPCP] called for supporting the Palestinian intifadah, confronting the symbols of defeatism and concessions, and escalating armed attacks on the Zionist occupiers. This came in a political statement the party issued on the 5 June [1967 Arab-Israeli war] anniversary. The statement called for setting up a national Palestinian center inside and outside Palestine to publicize the steadfastness line and to force Arab nations and national liberation groups to shoulder their responsibilities in supporting this center and confronting the attempts to defeat the Palestine cause. It also called for bolstering alliance and cohesion between the Arab forces of steadfastness in Lebanon on the basis of a clear program that guarantees a national democratic solution in Lebanon and that escalates the Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance against the invaders and occupiers.

Egypt

Mubarak AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM Interview Cited

NC0606151589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)—In a wide-ranging interview conducted by 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Masa'id, chief editor of the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has said that the success of the Casablanca summit did not come about in a vacuum. It was made possible, he said, by the fact that all the Arab kings and presidents who attended the summit rose to the occasion and refrained from one-upmanship, confrontations, and squabbles.

In the interview, which AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM will publish tomorrow, Wednesday, President Mubarak said that the fragmentation of Lebanon is not in the interest of the Arab people. Mubarak described as serious the idea that Lebanon could be partitioned on the pretext that certain parties have certain rights in that country. Mubarak said: I am afraid that if this were allowed to happen, Lebanon would set a precedent which might be repeated.

President Mubarak said that Egypt is a home to the Arabs and is ready to play host to any Arab brother at any time. He called for Arab differences to be discarded and urged the revival of the Arab common market. He referred to the single European market which is expected to come about in 1992, the expected economic unity between Canada and the United States, and the wide-scale economic cooperation among Asian nations.

Mubarak said that the purpose of any exchange between him and any other Arab leader is to serve the interests of the Arab people. He expressed the hope that Egyptian-Libyan ties will be restored to their normal course and that the atmosphere between the two countries will be cleared.

President Mubarak also gave frank and clear answers to question on the realities of national action on the home front.

Asked about the dazzling success of the Casablanca summit, Mubarak said that this success, which gained world-wide publicity, was made possible by the high sense of responsibility displayed by the Arab leaders who attended the summit and by their cooperation and frankness. He praised the summit's decision to form a tripartite committee to tackle the Lebanese crisis.

Concerning the Syrian position on Lebanon, President Mubarak expressed the hope that Syria will not stand alone against Arab public opinion in its entirety. He underlined his belief that Syria is a sisterly country which values the interests of Lebanon in just the same way as any other Arab country does. He added that "the fragmentation of Lebanon is not in the interests of the Arab people, but rather a loss to all of us."

Concerning the inability of the Casablanca summit to achieve reconciliation between Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, President Mubarak said that holding summit sessions on a regular basis would ensure the gradual removal of differences and complications. Mubarak called for the Arab summit meetings to be held annually so as to curb the possible exacerbation of differences and to afford the opportunity for a quiet dialogue among all parties.

Mubarak was asked whether the Arab summit had tackled the border disputes among some Arab countries, including Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. He said saying that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is eager to resolve all border disputes with his Arab brothers. President Saddam, Mubarak added, is serious in this desire and is most appreciative of Kuwait's full support for Iraq during its war with Iran.

In his interview with the Kuwaiti paper AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, President Mubarak stressed that his proposal to the Casablanca summit that a regular annual summit should be held received a favorable response from all Arab kings and presidents. He said that the ordinary Arab summit will be held in Riyadh soon.

Asked why the Arab leaders were not invited to hold the next summit in Cairo, President Mubarak stressed that the Arab leaders do not need an invitation to meet in Cairo. He added that Egypt is their homeland and is always open to receive any Arab brother any time.

Regarding relations between Egypt and Libya, President Mubarak said that the results of his meetings with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at the recent summit were of a kind "which I hope will be beneficial to our two peoples." The president stressed that formalities in relations between Egypt and Libya are not important. He stated that he might visit Libya, or the Libyan leader might visit Egypt; it is not important who visits the other first, he said.

Regarding Egypt's position should leader Al-Qadhdhafi ask for the extradition of the Libyan opposition figures residing in Egypt, President Mubarak said that Egypt will provide security and safety to any refugee in Egypt without infringing on the interests of his country. He stressed that Egypt will not allow any Libyan opposition figure to act against Libya.

Speaking on relations between Egypt and Syria, President Mubarak said that there is nothing that infringes on the relations between the two countries. He added that he spoke with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad at their meeting in Casablanca on a number of general issues, but they did not touch on the issue of restoring relations.

President Mubarak stressed that his concept of peace, which he propounded in the working paper he submitted to the Casablanca summit, was much admired by many

Arab leaders and by Arab League Secretary-General Chedli Klibi, who described it as one of the best concepts for an Arab action plan for the coming stage.

President Mubarak denied that differences over the Lebanese issue were responsible for delaying agreement on restoring diplomatic relations between Cairo and Damascus. He said that Cairo's stand on the Lebanese issue is clear and declared. The only way to end the Lebanese crisis is to form an Arab committee that will act to restore life to normal and enable the Lebanese people to impose their sovereignty on their own territory. He added that all the Arab parties, including Syria, were satisfied with the committee which the Casablanca summit set up to resolve the Lebanese crisis.

President Mubarak explained that relations between Egypt and Israel favor peace in the Palestinian issue. He added that whoever thinks that this relationship works against the Arab nation is mistaken. He stressed that these relations are clear and that actions taken within their framework are clear too.

The president called for the amendment of the Arab League Charter to serve the interests of the Arab nation and to bring the charter into line with the spirit of the age we live in. He added that this is not only an Egyptian request; Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz has called for the amendment of the charter, which was drawn up 45 years ago.

President Mubarak also called for the establishment of an Arab common market and for the crystallization of a united Arab economic entity, so that the Arabs would not encounter difficulties in facing the large economic blocs that exist in the world now.

President Mubarak referred to Egypt's declaration about exempting Arab League nationals from the need to obtain entry visas to Egypt from Egyptian consulates abroad and enabling them to obtain these visas on arrival at Egyptian ports. He stressed that Egypt always welcomes the Arab brothers and does not place any obstacles in the way of their entry into their second homeland.

In the AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM interview, President Mubarak expressed the hope that the Iraq-Iran negotiations will make progress in favor of the peoples of the entire region, who are in need of construction, development, and prosperity rather than bloodshed and the destruction of economic installations.

President Mubarak stated that the issue of the debts of Third World countries will be the main topic of his talks when he meets with world leaders during his visit to France in July on the occasion of the bicentennial anniversary of the French Revolution.

On the outcome of his recent visit to the United States, President Mubarak pointed out that this visit had led to an enormous change in U.S. public opinion. He added that his discussions with U.S. Government officials and congressmen had yielded positive results with regard to the Palestinian issue.

President Mubarak supported U.S. President George Bush's recently announced view that wars do not resolve problems among countries. He said peace is an international demand and war only means destruction to human resources. He emphasized that if the world diverted armament expenditures to development and people's prosperity, the face of the world would change.

President Mubarak asserted that there is no restriction on the investment of Arab funds in Egypt. Arab capital is being treated on an equal basis with Egyptian capital, he asserted.

Replying to a question on the likelihood of a meeting between him and Soviet leader Gorbachev, President Mubarak announced that he has an invitation to visit the Soviet Union. He added that he will visit Moscow and meet with Mr Gorbachev when the right time comes.

He pointed out that Egypt's relations with the Soviet Union are very good. He stressed that he extends his hand to all big and small countries and to all world countries.

Responding to a question on Egypt's military industry, President Mubarak said Egypt has huge factories in the field of armament and war production, in addition to the facilities of the Arab Organization for Military Industrialization. He expressed his belief that any Arab country participating in the Arab Organization for Military Industrialization will not seek to destroy this institution [sentence as received].

Commenting on the current military exercises being conducted by Egypt and Jordan, President Mubarak noted that military exercises are very useful. He said Egypt is ready to hold military maneuvers with any Arab state asking for such maneuvers in order to enhance its expertise and obtain the best technology.

In the interview, President Mubarak discussed several domestic issues, including price increases. The president said that people with limited and modest incomes should not be affected by the price increases, which, he added, will be gradual. The president pointed out that the price of imported wheat has increased from $85 to $195 per ton in the span of a few years.

As for the problem of unemployment in Egypt, the president said that this phenomenon has some peculiar aspects. He mentioned that some young people register as unemployed with the Ministry of Manpower, while they actually work for the private sector and the investment companies for big wages. Their goal is to increase their incomes and get more than one job, he stated.

Concerning the case of the Al-Rayyan Investment Company, the president said that as soon as the case is decided in court, the depositors will be able to collect what is owed them.

President Mubarak described the current debate over the return to the People's Assembly of several deputies on court orders as an evidence of the prevalent spirit of democracy in Egyptian politics. He said that extremism exists in all countries and not just Egypt, adding that the atmosphere of democracy in the country and the absence of censorship has allowed some newspapers to indulge in sensational reporting.

Concerning Egypt's debts and its position in relation to the IMF, President Mubarak said that Egypt is moving along the path of economic reform, but the IMF is still clinging to the "recipe" which it believes can achieve economic reform and is reluctant to reconsider other alternatives. Mubarak said that Egyptian officials place the interests of the homeland and the citizens above all other considerations.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM Chief Editor al-Masa'id introduced Mubarak's interview by describing it as a heart-to-heart exchange which took place without prepared questions or answers and revealed the usual frankness and spontaneity of President Mubarak.

President Mubarak gave this interview to Al-Masa'id at a meeting last Sunday [4 June] which was also attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif; Dr Mamduh al-Biltaji, head of the information authority; 'Abdallah al-Shini, chief editor of the Kuwaiti magazine AL-NAHDAH; and Sa'id Mustafa, head of the AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM office in Cairo.

Al-Azhar Imam Expresses Sympathy to Iran

NC0606132689 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1119 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jun (MENA)—His Eminence Shaykh Jad-al-Haq 'Ali Jad-al-Haq, the grand shaykh of Al-Azhar, today issued a statement expressing his sympathy with the Iranian people under current circumstances. Speaking on behalf of Al-Azhar, Shaykh Jad-al-Haq wished Iran peace and the mercy of God and prayed to God to grant the Iranian leaders and people the wisdom to choose the best course for them and for Muslims.

The grand imam of Al-Azhar called on the Iranian people to cooperate with other Muslim nations to attain the fraternity which God prescribed in the Koran and to act with the neighborliness advocated by Islam.

Shaykh Jad-al-Haq called on Iran and Iraq to eliminate all traces of war, reconstruct their countries, and set right the wrongs caused by the prolonged and wide-scale fighting. He also called on the rest of Muslim leaders and peoples to forget the pains of the war and work to restore the unity of the Muslim ranks in order to cope with the challenges of an age in which small entities have no place and no status.

Measures Finalized for Resuming Ties With Lebanon

JN0606100289 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH
in Arabic 4 Jun 89 p 2

[By Sumayah Ahmad]

[Excerpts] The tripartite Arab committee tasked with the settlement of the Lebanese crisis will begin meetings in Rabat today, Sunday, to formulate a framework for the implementation of the extraordinary Casablanca summit resolution and to enable the Lebanese constitutional institutions to solve the Lebanese problem. [passage omitted]

AL-JUMHURIYAH met with Ambassador 'Abd al-Rahman al-Sulh, official in charge of the Lebanese interests mission in Cairo, during which he touched on all matters pertaining to the Lebanese crisis.

Ambassador al-Sulh said the Lebanese people highly value President Mubarak's positions and role in the Lebanese crisis, adding that President Mubarak adopts a comprehensive and nonregional approach.

'Abd al-Rahman al-Sulh added that the measures for the resumption of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Lebanon have been finalized and will be announced over the next few days. He added that there is a consensus on the popular and official level on the resumption of these relations. [passage omitted]

Cairo Possible Venue for Lebanese Chamber Session

NC0306064489 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0611 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 3 Jun (MENA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH reports today that Cairo is one of several capitals being proposed as venues for holding a session of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies outside Lebanon during which the members of the Chamber would discuss a constitutional reform document in complete safety and far from any threat, pressure, or bargaining.

The paper says that two other capitals proposed as venues for this session are Rabat, the capital of King Hassan II, the chairman of the Casablanca summit and chairman of the tripartite committee which is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the resolution pertaining the Lebanon, and Tunis, the headquarters of the Arab League.

AL-JUMHURIYAH notes that Cairo is being nominated as a venue for numerous reasons, including Egypt's constant position on the Lebanese issue, Egypt's avoidance of any axis formation and bias in dealing with issues, Egypt's Arab and international influence, the proximity of the place, and the provision of security guarantees for the deputies.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds that as soon as the tripartite committee begins its contacts with the Lebanese parties and other concerned parties, particularly the members of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, the venue and date of the session will be determined.

'Abd al-Majid Comments

NC0306172889 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1640 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] Cairo, 3 Jun (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with the EC ambassadors in Cairo in order to brief them on the results of the Casablanca Arab summit conference and extend Egypt's thanks for the EC statement welcoming Egypt's readmission to the Arab League.

In a press statement following the meeting, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that he held a meeting today at the Foreign Ministry during which all topics relating to the question of the Arab League headquarters in Cairo and the status of workers there were discussed. He reaffirmed Egypt's concern to safeguard the rights of the workers at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo.

On the possibility of convening a session of the Lebanese Parliament in Cairo, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that he has no knowledge of this.

Referring to the ongoing Arab efforts to solve the Lebanese problem, he said that the Arab summit had adopted resolutions in this connection and there are positive moves for solving the Lebanese problem.

Asked if he had received an invitation from Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to visit Damascus, 'Abd al-Majid said that he had not yet received such an invitation.

'Abd al-Majid said that an Egyptian delegation representing various ministries and departments will leave for Libya tomorrow for talks on relations between the two countries.

Ghali Reviews Israeli 'Practices' With UN Group

NC0606190789 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today met with the UN fact-finding committee which is currently on a visit to Egypt as part of a tour to investigate Israel's practices in the occupied Arab territories. Dr Ghali told the committee of Egypt's position on the Israeli practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, practices which conflict with UN resolutions and the principles of human rights.

Libya Agrees To Compensate Egyptian Workers

NC0506042789 Cairo MENA in Arabic
2132 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 4 Jun (MENA)—Libya has agreed to pay full compensation to the Egyptian workers who used to work there. Ahmad al-Amawi, chairman of the Egyptian Trade Union Federation, stated this following his discussions with the chairman of the Libyan Trade Union Federation in Tripoli today. [passage omitted]

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Cables Condolences to Gorbachev

LD0706095389 Tripoli JANA in English
0811 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution sent a cable of condolences and sympathy to Mikhail Gorbachev the secretary general of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party for the victims of the disaster resulting from the explosion of a gas and oil pipe line in the republic of Bashkiriya in which 400 people were killed.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Message From Saddam Husayn

JN0606185589 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1740 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Jun (INA)—Libyan President Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has received a written message from President Saddam Husayn.

The message was delivered by 'Abdallah Fadil, President Saddam's envoy and minister of awqaf and religious affairs, when the Libyan president received him here today.

The message invites a representative of the Libyan president to attend the celebrations on the start of the reconstruction of Al-Faw, the city of sacrifice and the gate of the great victory, which will begin on 25 June. The message also requests stones to be placed in the foundation and walls of the city in commemoration of the Arab role in building it.

Sudan

Government To Issue Statement on Chad Claim 6 Jun

EA0606121789 Khartoum SUNA in English
0925 6 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 6th June—The government has refuted Chadian allegations that Sudan was preparing to attack Chad, in co-ordination with Libya, the daily independent AL-AYYAM reported today.

AL-AYYAM quoted the Foreign Ministry's state minister, Mahdi Da'ud al-Khalifah, as saying his ministry will today issue a statement detailing Sudan's position vis-a-vis the Chadian allegations. The state minister pointed out that the foreign ministry will take the necessary measures through the appropriate channels. Al-Khalifah stressed that Sudan has never taken a hostile stance against any of its neighbors.

Meanwhile, the deputy chief of staff for operations, Gen 'Abd al-Rahman Sa'id, told the paper that there was no reason for Sudan to attack Chad as has been alleged. He said the Army has no connection with the alleged preparation for an offensive against Chad. The Army official has denied existence of any Libyan or Sudanese troops along the borders with Chad.

Ethiopian Lands MiG-23 at Khartoum, Seeks Asylum

NC0706090889 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0907 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Jun (MENA)—An official spokesman for the Sudanese Armed Forces said today that an Ethiopian MiG-23 fighter landed at Khartoum airport last night. The pilot, a first lieutenant, has sought political asylum in Sudan.

Knowledgeable security sources have stated that the security authorities in coordination with the Sudanese Armed Forces have towed the fighter plane from Khartoum airport to the military airport. The sources added that the Sudanese Government is currently studying the pilot's request for political asylum. The same sources pointed out that the Sudanese forces general command will issue a detailed statement on the incident at a later date.

SPLA Leader Meets With Red Cross in Geneva

AB0206183289 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 2 Jun 89

[Text] The leader of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army [SPLA], John Garang, has agreed to allow Red Cross officials to visit Sudanese Government troops held prisoner by the SPLA. Speaking after talks with the Red Cross in Geneva, he said about a thousand were being held. Mr Garang also repeated that he would extend the month-long cease-fire in southern Sudan for another 15 days, provided the government showed signs of movement towards peace.

The Sudanese foreign minister, Mr Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, is quoted as having said that the government would enter into peace talks with the SPLA next week with no conditions.

Tunisia

France's Mitterrand Gives Banquet Speech 5 Jun

LD0606153289 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1213 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Excerpts] French President Francois Mitterrand gave a speech at the dinner banquet held in his honor by President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali at the Republic's palace in Carthage last night. [passage omitted]

President Mitterrand affirmed that there is nothing any more which might impede the harmony of our relations. He added: We respect the affirmation of Tunisia of its Arab and Islamic personality. The dialogue of cultures can only find in our differences a source of enrichment as long as these are based on the spirit of tolerance, as is the case between us. I do not need to stress this, and the consolidation of democracy and public liberties and human rights facilitate undestanding between our societies.

President Mitterrand also affirmed that the vitality of the youth, who have a spirit of initiative, makes them more able to control the (?challenge) of the future. He said: You can rely on your friends to achieve the aims [words indistinct], and rest assured that you will get from France all the support.

President Francois Mitterrand then touched upon French-Tunisian cooperation and expressed his satisfaction at the personal impetus given by President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to this cooperation and at the positive results to which it led.

Regarding the Tunisian community residing in France, President Mitterrand noted that he admires its humane qualities and its contribution to the French economy. He emphatically added that everyone residing in France, within the framework of our laws, has the right to enjoy his rights and the legitimate protection.

Concerning bilateral economic relations, President Mitterand declared taht the two governments have set for themselves the goals of increasing the volume of French investments in Tunisia by 30 percent within 3 years and encouraging the setting up of joint institutions and the (?establishment) of French institution in Tunisia.

On the cultural level, the French President alluded to the project of relaying programs of one of the French public TV channels to Tunisia and recalled the fact that both countries are founder-members of the Arab World Institute in Paris and are driven by a determination to contribute in the mutual enrichment of cultures. The French president stated, in this respect, we are aware that it is necessary to strengthen the Arabic language teaching to the sons of your immigrant workers.

After pointing out the emergence of certain groups of both sides of the Mediterranean, President Mitterrand saluted, in this regard, the active role played by Tunisia in driving the march which resulted in the creation of the Arab Maghreb Union. He stressed that the birth of this regional group is insurance for the stability and prosperity of the peoples of the region and it comes at the right time, when the European Community itself is [words indistinct] the integration of its internal markets. President Mitterrand said that, in his capacity as president of the EEC beginning in (?July), he will work toward laying the foundation for a new type of cooperation between the Arab Maghreb Union and the European Economic Community.

Regarding current international issues, the French leader expressed his satisfaction with the setting up of the tripartite committee entrusted by the Arab summit in Casablanca with the task of finding a solution to the Lebanese crisis based upon a just and durable peace and upon the respect of sovereignty of Lebanon and the necessity for negotiations between the various Lebanese parties. Concerning the Palestinian question, President Francois Mitterrand described the Casablanca summit's resolution to confirm the realistic course endorsed by the Palestinian National Council in Algiers as a positive indicator. He pointed out that the spirit of peace and dialogue has made a fresh step, however, he added, it is necessary to take further steps in this direction. He added it is necessary to an international conference for peace that will gather the concerned parties with the help of the permanent members of the UN Security Council.

President Francois Mitterrand highlighted the conformity of points of view during his talks with President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali with regard to all these issues and other matters such as development and relations between Mediterranean states.

President Mitterrand ended his speech by saying: What I have seen and heard today, and this people's activity—I have noted their initiative, the dynamism of its youth, committment to this lifestyle, adherence to the liberties make Tunisia capable of facing the future with optimism.

Bahrain

Amir Returns From Iraq, Egypt, Summit

JN0406163389 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] Manama, June 4 (GNA)—H.H. [His Highness] the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah returned home this evening after official visits to Iraq and Egypt.

H.H. the amir also headed Bahrain's delegation to the extraordinary Arab summit conference in Casablanca, Morocco.

He was received at the airport by Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Crown Prince and Commander-in-chief of the BDF [Bahraini Defense Force] Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, ministers and senior civil and military officials.

Amir Receives Iraqi President's Envoy, Message

JN0506165689 Manama WAKH in English 1555 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Manama, June 5 (GNA)—H.H. [His Highness] the amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received a written message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

The message was conveyed by Iraqi Presidential Envoy and Minister of Justice Akram 'Abd al-Qadir during his reception by H.H. the amir here today.

The audience was attended by Bahraini Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs Shaykh 'Abdallah ibn Khalid Al Khalifah, Justice Undersecretary Shaykh 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Muhammad ibn Rashid Al Khalifah and Iraqi Ambassador to Bahrain Taha Mahmud al-Qaysi.

'Abd al-Qadir told GNA that the message is dealing with the strong brotherly relations between the two countries.

'Abd al-Qadir hoped all progress and prosperity for Bahrain.

He added that the message is also dealing with Iraq's campaign to reconstruct the town of al-Faw on June 25.

New Zealand Trade Minister Meets With Al-Shirawi

JN0406160689 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] Manama, June 4 (GNA)—Bahraini Minister of Development and Industry and Acting State Minister For Cabinet Affairs Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi met here today with New Zealand's Minister of Trade and Energy David Butcher and the accompanying delegation.

Following the meeting, Al-Shirawi stated they exchanged views on bilateral cooperation, particularly in the field of energy and ways of perfect use of natural gas as well as gas manufacturing in the future.

He also said that they reviewed future plans to open new direct air route between New Zealand and GCC states.

He added that the meeting was fruitful and constructive for the sake of boosting bilateral relations in different fields, mainly that connected to energy.

Confers With Finance Minister

JN0506172589 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Manama, June 5 (GNA)—Bahraini Minister of Finance and National Economy Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim met here today with New Zealand's Minister of Energy David Butcher, currently visiting the island.

Following the meeting, 'Abd al-Karim said the meeting reviewed future steps to enhance trade between the two countries and setting up joint projects.

They also reviewed setting up centres for developing Gulf and New Zealand industries in the other's country and reviewed economic relations, mainly in the financial and banking field.

'Abd al-Karim added that the meeting studied the position of the free zone between New Zealand and Australia and its comparison the experience of the Gulf Cooperation Council's states in the light of the economic treaty among the GCC states.

The Bahraini minister also pointed out that he reviewed with the New Zealandan minister future expectations towards economy in the Arab Gulf region in light of current changes and the possibility of benefiting from the New Zealand's experience in the financial, banking and economic field.

Concludes Visit, Departs

JN0606110989 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0920 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Manama, 6 Jun (WAKH)—New Zealand Energy Minister David Butcher left Manama today for his country following a several-day visit to Bahrain. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Amir Cables Congratulations to Gorbachev

LD3005130789 Kuwait KUNA in English 1026 GMT 30 May 89

[Text] Kuwait, May 30 (KUNA)—The amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Al Sabah Tuesday sent a cable of congratulations to President of the Supreme Soviet Mikhail Gorbachev on the occasion of his election to this post.

PLO's 'Arafat Arrives in Kuwait 5 Jun

JN0506163489 Baghdad INA in English 1615 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Kuwait, June 5,—President of the State of Palestine, Mr. Yasir 'Arafat and his accompaying delegation arrived here today on a visit to Kuwait.

Mr. 'Arafat was received at the airport by the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, crown prince and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim Al Sabah, senior officials, the ministers, the governors and dean of the diplomatic corps.

Holds Talks With Amir

LD0606121289 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, president of sister state of Palestine, paid a visit at 1100 this morning to his brother his highness the amir at Bayan Palace where the official talks took place between them.

The talks included a review of the outcome of the emergency Arab summit conference recently held in Casablanca, a review of the latest developments of the Palestinian intifadah [uprising] and a discussion of the current Gulf, Arab, and international developments. The talks confirmed the conformity of viewpoints vis-a-vis a great number of Arab issues. The talks were held in an amicable atmosphere characterized by understanding and the spirit of brotherhood.

Received by Prime Minister

LD0506191589 Kuwait KUNA in English 1735 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Kuwait, June 5 (KUNA)—His Highness the crown prince and premier, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim Al Sabah Monday hosted a dinner banquet in the honour of Palestine's President Yasir 'Arafat on the occasion of his visit to the country.

The banquet was attended by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, ministers, 'Arafat's accompanying delegation, senior officials and the dean of the diplomatic corp in Kuwait.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD0606172289 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Excerpt] His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, the head of the fraternal state of Palestine, and his accompanying delegation left Kuwait International Airport this afternoon at 1700 hours following a visit to the country.

His brother his highness the amir and his highness the heir apparent and prime minister were among those who saw him off. [passage omitted]

Oman

Qabus Congratulates Khamene'i on Election

JN0606134989 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, may God preserve him, has sent a cable of congratulations to His Eminence Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the occasion of his election as leader of the republic and as a successor to the late Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Tanzanian President Arrives From Iran 4 Jun

EA0506151689 Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1600 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] Muscat—President Ali Hassan Mwinyi arrived in Muscat, Oman, today on his way home, after cutting short (by 1 day) his visit to Iran following the death of Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni. President Mwinyi and his delegation, including Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa, left Tehran today after a meeting with their host, President 'Ali Khamene'i and signing a book of condolences on the death of Ayatollah Khomeyni. President Mwinyi has ordered that Tanzania will observe 3 days of mourning beginning tomorrow when all flags will fly at half-mast.

PDRY

USSR Delegation Meets With Minister of Culture

EA3005212089 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 May 89

[Text] Comrade Muhammad Ahmad Jurhum, member of the Central Committee and minister of culture and information, this morning met with a delegation of the Cultural Relations Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, with whom he discussed in a friendly atmosphere relations between the PDRY and the USSR and ways of developing and strengthening them.

Meanwhile at the Golden Beach Hotel this morning talks began between the Ministry of Culture and Information and the delegation of the Cultural Relations Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry. The Yemeni side was led by Comrade Khalid Muhayriz, assistant deputy culture and information minister, while the Soviet side was headed by Comrade Albert Kolev, the Soviet charge d'affaires in Aden. At the beginning of the talks expressions of friendship were exchanged by the two sides, demonstrating the depth of the relations linking the two countries and the importance of developing and strengthening them. The talks also covered the cultural and scientific plans for 1989-1990 between our country and the USSR. These plans embrace the fields of science, education, culture, the arts, relations between the creative unions, and other areas.

15th Session of YSP Central Committee Ends

EA0206140789 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Jun 89

[Text] The Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee ended its 15th session early this morning under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Central Committee of the YSP. During the session the Central Committee discussed a number of issues relating to party and organizational matters and the economic, social, and cultural situation, as well as matters relating to internal and foreign policy, all of which were covered in the political report submitted by the Political Bureau and the secretariat of the Central Committee.

The Central Committee stressed that this session was of particular importance inasmuch as it was convened at the time when our Yemeni people were about to welcome the 20th anniversary of the glorious corrective step of 20 June, which thrust the revolution forward toward consolidating the progressive economic and social transformation in our country.

The 15th session examined fully and discussed democratically the basic plan on the basic trends of political and economic reform. The members of the Central Committee stressed the enormous importance attached to the draft reform plan in the life of our party, revolution, and people.

During the course of the session the Central Committee stressed its great interest in strengthening the unificatory activity between the leadership of the two parts [North and South Yemen]. The Central Committee expressed satisfaction at the brotherly understanding and dialogue with the brothers in the leadership of the northern part of the homeland.

Saudi Arabia

Defense Minister's UK Visit 'Most Successful'

PM0606093189 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 4 Jun 89 p 2

[Rifqi al-Tayyib report: "Saudi Ambassador in London Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Prince Sultan's Visit Completely Successful"]

[Excerpt] London—Saudi Ambassador to Britain and Dean of Arab Diplomats in London Nasir al-Manqur has described the visit to Britain of Saudi Second Deputy Prime Minister, Defense and Aviation Minister, and Inspector General Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz as one of the most successful ever. The visit was concluded the day before yesterday.

In a statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Al-Manqur said that Prince Sultan's talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher covered all current issues in the region, especially the Palestinian question, the Iraq-Iran negotiations, and the Lebanese crisis.

He added that the British side was fully responsive and showed complete understanding of the need to work and to contribute to the search for just solutions to these problems, which threaten the region's security and stability.

He also said that Prince Sultan's talks with British Secretary of State for Defense George Younger covered the Al-Yamamah Project-2 and the parallel economic balance projects. He added that the two sides had agreed to call businessmen from both countries to a joint meeting to be held soon in London or Riyadh to give the private sector the chance to implement parallel economic projects in the Saudi Kingdom to the limit of 20 to 30 percent of the contract. [passage omitted]

Jeddah Daily Assails Iranian-Israeli Relations

PM3005091089 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 22 May 89 p 9

[Unattributed article: "Strong Military Ties Between Khomeyni's Iran and Israel"]

[Text] "Khomeyni's Iran" and the Zionist entity are bound by strong secret military ties that have greatly contributed to the Tehran regime's arrogance, defiance of international conventions and charters, and accusations at the states of the region. The Zionist entity chose "Khomeyni's Iran" as the ally expected to exhaust most of the Arab capabilities by sparking a strategic conflict that would divert the Arabs' attention completely from the Arab-Zionist conflict and drain their capabilities.

The Zionist entity looks at its future in the Middle East from three angles: first, working to weaken the Arab states and destroy the sources of their power; second, continuing to split the Arabs and trying to win over one or more Arab parties; and third, relying on the Iranian regime and ensuring that it remains strong so that it can become a Zionist tool that can be used directly or indirectly to arouse Arab fears.

The Zionist move toward Iran is a structural part of Israeli-Iranian relations, as the Zionists consider arms exports a diplomatic tool for developing relations with states that are close by with a view to forcing them to establish full relations with Israel.

The expansion of cooperation between the Zionist entity and Iran negates the ostensible debate over the ideological conflict between Israel and Iran, in view of the actual cooperation existing between them.

Military analysts point out that the question of achieving military superiority in the balance of the military conflict between the Zionist entity and the Arab nation is still the central issue in Israeli security calculations.

Documents confirm that Iran actually began receiving weapons and military equipment and spare parts from Israel from the early days of the Iraq-Iran war in September 1980, and that many sides were involved in supplying this materiel to Iran by sea and air.

Within the framework of the Iranian-Israeli conspiracy, Tehran supplied Israel with photographs taken by Iranian aircraft during raids on Iraq. The Zionist entity benefited substantially from those documents in its attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

It is worth mentioning that the Zionist entity is working to create religious phenomena and to split the Arab world into minor states, and that is the major objective of the Khomeyni-Zionist plan. Whenever a historic opportunity arises, it uses its military, financial, moral, intelligence, and informational resources to further this objective.

The alliance between the Zionist entity and the former shah's regime assumed an economic, financial, and military nature. Zionist intelligence monitored all interactions inside Iran. And it has been proved that a large number of so-called "men of religion" in Tehran had links with Zionist intelligence.

With the Khomeyni regime's assumption of power the Zionist dream represented by the idea of dividing the Arab homeland into minor states has become apparent, because Khomeyni adopts the philosophy of exporting the "Khomeyniite revolution" and of splitting it on a sectarian and religious basis. And because that philosophy is aimed primarily at the Arab nation, the Zionist entity has placed all its military, political, and intelligence expertise at his service. Thus Khomeyni's philosophy and that of the Zionists coincide.

The Zionist entity supplies Iran with weapons via mediators and arm dealers and in cooperation with Israeli intelligence to prolong the Iraq-Iran war. That cooperation has expanded to include the fields of intelligence, psychological cooperation, and other fields.

It is worth mentioning that Zionist-Iranian cooperation enjoys the blessing of Khomeyni himself. It was he who ruled that there should be direct dealings with Zionist arm dealers on the black market.

United Arab Emirates

Diplomatic Relations With Panama Established

JN0606153189 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Jun (WAKH)—The government of the United Arab Emirates and the Republic of Panama have decided to establish diplomatic relations between their countries at the ambassadorial level as of 5 June.

A statement issued today said the decision stemmed from common desire to enhance the relations of friendship and promote cooperation between the two countries.

Hazza' ibn Zayid Appointed Deputy Security Chief

JN0506134289 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 4 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates, has issued a federal decree appointing Shaykh Hazza' ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan as deputy chief of the State Security Organ.

His highness the president also issued a federal decree amending the organizational structure of the State Security Organ. The amendment stipulates that the chief of the State Security Organ shall have two deputies.

Iran's Illegal Use of TV Channels Protested

JN0406100689 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 1 Jun 89 pp 22

[Text] Nicosia, AL-QABAS—Sources in Nicosia have informed AL-QABAS that the United Arab Emirates [UAE] officially asked Iran to stop its illegal television transmission on two channels used by the UAE television station.

The sources indicated that Iran has built a big satellite station in the area of Pol-e Dokhtar to strengthen Tehran television's transmission in southern Iran and the Gulf states. The sources added that the station, built by the Japanese, is transmitting on the Channels 5 and 7, which is causing interference with UAE television transmission on these two channels.

The UAE Ministry of Information sent a delegation to Tehran to discuss the issue. Iran promised to stop its transmission on Channel 5 immediately and to stop its transmission on Channel 7 within 6 months.

The sources went on to say that Iran has not kept its promise, prompting the UAE minister of information to summon Iranian Ambassador Mostafa Ha'eri-Fumani on 22 April and stress to him the need to implement what has been agreed upon because Iran has no right to use these two channels.

Zayid Receives Telephone Call From King Husayn

JN0506064189 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0540 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 June (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates, today received a telephone call from Jordan's King Husayn. WAM said that the two leaders exchanged opinions on the ongoing Arab developments in light of the results of the extraordinary Arab summit conference in Casablanca as well as the methods to reinforce the common Arab action in the next stage.

Al-Shariqah Ruler Receives Eritrean Official

JN3105170789 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 31 May 89

[Text] Al-Shariqah, UAE, May 31 (GNA)—UAE Supreme Council Member and ruler of Al-Shariqah Dr. Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi received a message today from chairman of the Eritrean Liberation Front 'Umar al-Burj dealing with the Eritrean developments after the recent coup attempt in Ethiopia.

It was delivered by the group's representative in the Gulf, Muhammad 'Uthman Abu Bakir during a meeting with Shaykh Sultan.

Abu Bakr said after the meeting that the coup attempt concerned Ethiopia not any party else, adding the Eritrean revolution is seeking to liberate Eritrean territories and achieve self-determination.

He stressed the importance of peace in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea and the need for a radical solution to the conflict.

Yemen Arab Republic

Minister Offers Condolences at Iranian Embassy

JN0606185089 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Justice Minister Muhsin al-'Ulufi visited the Iranian Embassy in Sanaa this morning to extend condolences in the name of the government and the people on the death of Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Iranian Foreign Ministry Official Departs 3 Jun

JN0306173889 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] Hoseyn Sadeqi, director general of the Gulf and Yemen Affairs Department at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, today left Sanaa after a 4-day visit to our country. During the visit, he delivered a written message to brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member, from Iranian Foreign Minister brother 'Ali Akbar Velayati dealing with bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest.

He was seen off by brother Muhammad al-Mitwahi, director of the Islamic Department at the Foreign Ministry, and the Iranian charges d'affaires in Sanaa.

Saddam Husayn Cables Gorbachev on Reelection

JN0206125789 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1112 GMT 2 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Jun (INA)—His Excellency President Saddam Husayn has sent a cable of congratulations to Mikhail Gorbachev on his reelection as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The cable runs as follows:

On the occasion of your reelection as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, it gives us pleasure to send to Your Excellency warmest congratulations and best wishes. We wish Your Excellency continued health, happiness, and success in your tasks, and the friendly Soviet people continued progress.

On this occasion, we stress our eagerness about joint action to promote bilateral relations on the basis of the existing treaty of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union in the interest of our both peoples and to achieve stability, peace, and security in our region and the world.

Minister Conveys Condolences To Soviet Government

JN0606171489 Baghdad INA in English 1447 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 6, INA—On behalf of President Saddam Husayn, Minister of Culture and Information and acting Foreign Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim has conveyed his excellency's condolences to the Soviet Government over the catastrophe of oil-pipe explosion in the Soviet Bashkiskaya Republic [placename as received].

Visiting the Soviet Embassy here today, the minister expressed in the guest book Iraq's consolation over the incident. The minister was accompanied by foreign undersecretary.

Parliamentary Talks With CSSR Begin in Baghdad

JN0606171289 Baghdad INA in English 1645 GMT 6 May 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 6, INA—Parliamentary talks between Iraq and Czechoslovakia started here today at the National Assembly.

The Iraqi side to the talks was chaired by Mr. Ghanim 'Aziz Khaduri, deputy speaker of the National Assembly while the Czechoslovak side was chaired by Dr. Jan Janik deputy chairman of the Federal National Assembly [as received].

The talks covered means of consolidating and developing parliamentary relations between Iraq and Czechoslovakia to serve the joint interest of the peoples of the two friendly countries.

The two sides reviewed international peace initiatives to support the efforts of the U.N. secretary general to implement the articles of the Resolution No. 598 to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war and to achieve peace and security in the region.

The two sides also reviewed current Arab and international situation and issues of common concern.

They stressed their joint support for the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people and its right in self-determination under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

They also stressed their support for holding an international conference on peace under the auspices of the United Nations to discuss the Palestinian issue attended by all parties concerned including the PLO.

The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by chairman and members of the Arab and International Relations Committee and on the Czechoslovak side by representatives of the houses of people and nations.

CSSR's Janik, Speaker Meet

JN0606162589 Baghdad INA in English 1451 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 6, INA—Speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly Sa'di Mahdi Salih today met here visiting Deputy Speaker of Czechoslovak Parliament [title as received] Jan Janik and the accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, the two sides focused on means of developing parliamentary relations between Iraq and Czechoslovakia.

Mr Janik arrived here last night on a several-day official visit to Iraq at an Iraqi parliament's invitation.

U.S.-Iraqi Committee Meets With Ramadan

JN0606161389 Baghdad INA in English 1449 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 6, INA—Member of the Revolution Command Council and Iraq's First Deputy Premier, Mr. Taha Yasin Ramadan received here today the delegation of the U.S.-Iraqi working committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Robert Abboud [name as received].

During the meeting which was attended by the Iraqi foreign Undersecretary, Mr. Ramadan reviewed the Iraqi economy and its future as well as the strategic projects and development programmes which will be implemented in the industrial and agricultural fields. Mr. Ramadan also reviewed the economic and trade relations between Iraq and international organizations saying that these ties will be further promoted and expanded in harmony with the new stage.

Mr. Ramadan stressed that the Iraqi leadership is determined to develop and enhance all Iraqi provinces.

Chairman and members of the committee expressed their admiration of the development and renaissance witnessed by Iraq stressing their readiness to implement development projects in Iraq and to cooperate in this field with the Iraqi economic and trade organizations.

Minister Reviews Programs

JN0606161889 Baghdad INA in English 1513 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 6, INA—Iraqi Minister of Industry and Military Industrialization Mr. Husayn Kamil met here today with the delegation of the U.S.-Iraqi working committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Robert Abboud [name as received].

The minister reviewed the implemented programs of economic and industrial development in Iraq and said that Iraq is keen on their continuation within the schedule even during the war years. He said that the work had redoubled after ceasefire to expand strategic projects in Iraq.

Mr. Husayn Kamil Hasan added that the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialization had put within its plan the development and supporting the private sector operating in industrial field technically and financially in order to enable it to carry out its role in developing the industrial base in Iraq. He added that rendering a number of projects by the ministry of the private sector is included within the plan of his ministry.

He said that the ministry officials held continuous meetings with the Iraqi industrialists in the private sector to offer the requirements of developing their industries.

Saddam Chairs Council of Ministers Meeting

JN0106162889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 1 Jun (INA)—President Saddam Husayn presided over an approximately 5-hour meeting for the Council of Ministers today.

During the meeting, it was decided to award a key for the city of cities, valiant Al-Basrah, on the occasion of the end of the campaign to reconstruct Al-Basrah in accordance with the comprehensive campaign which President Saddam Husayn has led and contributed to.

On this occasion, his excellency stressed that the valiant city of Al-Basrah has become a symbol for Iraq and that the aggressors, whose concentrations were destroyed at its gates, could not enter it. He said that history will recall that the Iraqis reconstructed the city in only 4 months after it had been destroyed by enemy shelling.

President Saddam Husayn added that in light of the symbol it now represents and to safeguard the historic continuation of this symbol, the Al-Basrah key will be kept for a year by the side that has exerted the most distinguished efforts to reconstruct Al-Basrah, and that in future years, it will be kept by other sides who will exert greater efforts in accordance with extraordinary standards regrading the development of any city in great Iraq.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that the reconstruction of Al-Basrah proves that man can do things that seem to be a miracle for the first time when he uses all his potential. [passage omitted]

Saddam Chairs Meeting for General Command

JN0406191489 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, this evening chaired a meeting for the Armed Forces General Command. Ways to facilitate river transportation were discussed.

The meeting was attended by the minister of transport and communications.

Cuban Delegation Departs Baghdad 5 Jun

JN0506104689 Baghdad INA in English 1005 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 5, INA—Mr. Amado Contin, Cuban deputy minister of justice [name and title as received] and his accompanying delegation today left Baghdad at the conclusion of a week-long visit to Iraq.

The Cuban delegation, while in Baghdad, held talks with the officials of the Justice Ministry [which] led to signing a protocol for bilateral cooperation in the field of exchanging experiences between the justice ministries of the two countries.

Minister Returns From Vietnam Committee Meetings

JN0306152889 Baghdad INA in English 1400 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 3, INA—Iraqi Finance Minister Hikmat 'Umar Mukhaylif today stated that Iraq and Vietnam had concluded a joint minutes for expanding bilateral trade, economic and scientific exchange.

Speaking on his return to Baghdad from a visit to Vietnam, the minister said that he had had talks with Vietnamese officials focused on Iraq's loans offered to Vietnam, promoting bilateral trade exchange and possibility of meeting Iraq's need of Vietnamese manpower.

Mr. Mukhaylif led the Iraqi side to the meetings of the Iraqi-Vietnamese Joint Committee held in Vietnam last week.

Ramadan Receives Egyptian Prime Minister's Message

JN0506134889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1225 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jun (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received here today a written message from Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi.

The message was delivered by 'Amr Musa, ambassador at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, when the first deputy prime minister received him and his delegation here today.

The message deals with Egypt's preparations to host the summit conference of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] countries. It also deals with the subjects referred to the ACC for approval and which were approved during the meeting of the ACC countries' prime ministers that took place recently in Baghdad.

During the meeting, Taha Yasin Ramadan asserted that the birth of the ACC will contribute toward broadening the base of Arab cooperation in all fields, particularly in the economic and political fields, in a manner that corresponds with the pan-Arab responsibility shouldered by the ACC toward the Arab masses, and is compatible with the relations between its countries which were marked by progress for the past 10 years.

The first deputy prime minister asserted that in their coming meeting, leaders of the ACC countries will reach important results which will mark a qualitative and distinguished step in the march of cooperation among the ACC countries whose positive influence will reflect on the comprehensive Arab action.

The meeting was attended by the general director of the first deputy prime minister's office and the Egyptian ambassador in Baghdad.

Saddam Receives Message From India's Gandhi

JN3105114589 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 31 May 89

[Text] Baghdad, 31 May (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received a message from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The message deals with relations between the two friendly countries and means of promoting them.

Mehdaf Rao [name as received], Indian minister of railways, conveyed the message when President Saddam Husayn received him here today. Transport and Communications Minister Muhammad Hamzah and the Indian ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Tariq 'Aziz Conveys Saddam Message to 'Arafat

JN0406110889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Jun (INA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has received a written message from his brother, His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, on the great campaign for the reconstruction of Al-Faw, the city of sacrifice and the gate to the great victory.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, conveyed the message during a reception accorded to him here today by Yasir 'Arafat at his place of residence.

During the meeting, which was attended by the Palestinian ambassador in Baghdad, they discussed the latest regional developments and Arab issues.

'Aziz Confers With UK's David Mellor

JN2805184689 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 May 89

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received David Mellor, minister at the UK Ministry of Health, who is now visiting Iraq.

At the meeting, they discussed relations between Iraq and the UK and ways to promote them in all areas in order to serve the two countries' interests. They also discussed a number of regional and international issues of common interest.

The meeting was attended by the two Foreign Ministry under secretaries, the head of the International Department at the Foreign Ministry, and the UK ambassador in Baghdad.

Foreign Minister 'Aziz Leaves for Morocco 6 Jun

JN0506124889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1158 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jun (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and President Saddam Husayn's envoy to his brother, His Majesty Hassan II of Morocco, left Baghdad this afternoon for Morocco.

Returns From Rabat 7 Jun

JN0706083289 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jun (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and President Saddam Husayn's envoy to his brother, His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco, returned to Baghdad from Rabat today.

President Saddam Husayn's envoy conveyed a message to his majesty that includes an invitation to a representative of the king to attend the celebrations on the start of the reconstruction of Al-Faw, the city of sacrifice and the gate of the great victory. The message also requests Moroccan stones to be placed in the foundations and walls of the city.

Oil Minister Leaves for Vienna OPEC Meeting

JN0106104689 Baghdad INA in English 1015 GMT 1 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 1, INA—Iraqi Oil Minister Mr. 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim left here today for Vienna to participate in the 85th ordinary ministerial conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) member states due to start there next month.

Mr. 'Abd al-Rahim told INA that the meeting has a special importance concerning the role played by OPEC and international oil market in general. He said that the talks will center on defining production ceiling of OPEC during the 1989 second half as well as the quotas of the member states within this ceiling.

The minister added that the revenues achieved for the member states during the first half of this year were positive and were represented by the considerable improvement in the crude oil prices in the world market.

He said that the reason behind that lies in the comprehensive agreement which was reached during the 84th ministerial conference in last November according to which the production ceiling was defined at 18.5 million barrels per day and the quotas of the member states were also defined.

Mr. 'Abd al-Rahim stressed the necessity of fixing oil supply in harmony with the demand so as to acheive the required balance and to back market stability.

The Iraqi minister will participate in the second meeting of the eight-member ministerial committee assigned to observe the development of prices in the world market and the commitment of the member states to their quotas, due to be held their tomorrow.

Press Comments on 1981 Israeli Raid on Reactor

JN0706104089 Baghdad INA in English 0930 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Baghdad, June 7, INA—The Iraqi newspapers today stressed that Iraq categorically rejected and resisted any attempt to exert pressures on it or any attempt aiming at weakening the potentials of its national security.

That was mentioned in the editorials of the Iraqi dailies, published here today on the occasion of the 8th anniversary of the Zionist raid on the Tammuz reactor which was built for peaceful and scientific purposes.

AL-THAWRAH daily described the raid by saying that it represented the aggressive and terrorist nature of the Zionist entity.

AL-THAWRAH newspaper, organ of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party said in its editorial that the Zionist alliance completely failed to achieve any one of the targets of the big aggression conspiracy and it also failed to prevent Iraq's potential to possess the scientific and developed technological aspects.

The daily stressed that Iraq felt totally secured and fully confident that it is stronger and more capable than ever to destroy and to foil all aggressive and conspiratorial plans and to deter all those who try to aggress upon its scientific and industrial installations.

AL-THAWRAH daily went on to say that the enemies of Iraq must review and must try to understand and comprehend the changes and developments that occurred in the Iraqi and Arab arenas and get the right conclusions.

It stressed that Iraq today is not like Iraq of 1981 and the enemies would pay dearly for any foolish act and for any act of aggression carried out by them against the strong and capable Iraq.

The paper added that the Zionist propaganda campaigns against Iraq aimed at diverting the attention from the heroic Palestinian uprising which pushed through its continuation and political achievements the Zionist entity into a complete international isolation and showed the Zionist entity's total inability to confront the Palestinian people although it possesses means of destruction and oppression.

AL-THAWRAH newspaper said that the Zionist entity did not hide its concern over the Iraqi victory. It added that the Zionist and imperialist circles and their related propaganda organs tried to minimize the great Iraqi victory and to lessen its political and psychological effects among the Arab citizens.

It said that the Zionist raid represented the most dangerous and the most prominent link of the cooperation, coordination and alliance between the Iranian regime and the Zionist entity and showed that the two sides participated in one plan aiming at dividing and partitioning the Arab nation so as to give legitimacy to the existence of the Zionist entity.

Meanwhile, AL-THAWRAH daily said that the raid had shown more pages of the Iranian-Zionist cooperation whether in planning to wage war against Iraq or threatening its national existence and sovereignty or in the operation of material support for the Iranian aggression in the fields of armament, information, military aid and other fields.

AL-JUMHURIYAH daily added that Iran had given the Zionist entity pictures and information that helped it to carry out its crime in hitting the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

The paper said that the raid also reflected the expansionist and aggressive trend of the Zionist entity on the usurped Palestine and this trend related to the dependence of the Zionist entity on military force for aggression and reaching its evil targets regardless of international laws and charters.

It stressed that the Zionist aggressive entity did not hesitate to commit any crime against any vital installation in any Arab country especially the development establishments of advanced scientific nature such as nuclear installation which are prepared for industrial and agricultural purposes.

AL-QADISIYAH daily said that Iraq is stronger than the threats of the Zionist entity officials.

In its editorial on this matter the daily said that the Zionist entity had exploited the engagement of Iraq in confronting the Iranian aggression and hit the Iraqi nuclear reactor which was established for peaceful purposes.

The paper added that this entity must realize that the time of arrogance and intransigence had gone and that carrying out aggression on the Arab countries is no more a policy that can be adopted whenever the Zionist entity wishes.

AL-QADISIYAH newspaper stressed that Iraq possessed sufficient capabilities and elements of power that force the imperialist-backed Zionist entity to reconsider its calculations before trying to commit any foolish adventure.

The paper said that the situation in Iraq in 1981 was not like the situation witnessed by Iraq nowadays under peace, capability and victory.

Officials Pensioned Off, Replacements Appointed

JN0306195289 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 3 June 89

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jun (INA)—Two presidential decrees were issued here tonight pensioning off 'Abd al-Qadir Muhammad Amin and 'Arif Qatah Suhayl, under secretaries of the Ministry of Local Government.

Two other presidential decrees were issued appointing Zuhayr Tawfiq Rahu al-Dabbagh and Anwar Sa'id 'Umar as under secretaries of the Ministry of Local Government.

Assembly Speaker on New Constitution

JN0506193689 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Excerpt] National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih has asserted that the drafting of a new constitution for the country, which will determine the manner in which the multi-party system is established and organized, will be connected to the struggle and sacrifices made by the Iraqi people throughout the years of 17-30 July glorious revolution, which was planned and led by the militant president, Saddam Husayn.

The National Assembly speaker said: We as a people and nation have enough noble civilized and humanitarian features that enable our nation to confirm its firm principled course among the nations while it witnesses the granting of liberties and the embodiment of the democratic principles in their most glorious forms. In this, it depends on its moral and spiritual contributions which it made to the human civilization and thought. [passage omitted]

'Secret Meeting' Reported Between U.S., PLO

TA0706085689 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 7 Jun 89 p 1

[Report from Washington by Yo'el Esteron]

[Excerpt] U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Thomas Pickering held a secret meeting yesterday with PLO observer Labib al-Tarazi. The U.S. Administration asked the PLO not to publicize the meeting, which was held with the approval of Secretary of State James Baker.

This is the first time since the beginning of the dialogue between the United States and the PLO that the administration has expanded it to include another channel of communication, in addition to the official channel opened in Tunis. To date, U.S. official envoys to foreign countries and international organizations had been asked not to meet with PLO representatives.

In the meeting held yesterday in New York, Al-Tarazi asked Pickering—who had been the U.S. ambassador in Israel until a few months ago—to look into issues related to the implementation of the Geneva Convention and the upholding of human rights in the territories.

U.S. sources said yesterday that Pickering had acceded to Al-Tarazi's request to meet him in his capacity as the current president of the UN Security Council. According to these sources, the U.S. ambassador was asked to make this fact plain to Al-Tarazi, and to ask him not to publicize the meeting. The U.S. Administration informed Israel about the meeting and the restrictions imposed on the ambassador. Israeli sources, however, voiced concern over the expansion of the dialogue "under this or another pretext."

Another meeting between Ambassador Pelletreau and PLO representatives will take place tomorrow in Tunis. [passage omitted]

Shamir: 'Arafat Asks for Meeting 'Nearly Daily'

TA0706043889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir has revealed that nearly daily he receives appeals and proposals from Yasir 'Arafat for a meeting with the PLO leader. The prime minister said yesterday that PLO leaders are, in his words, dying for us to speak to them. But the prime minister said that the PLO aim is clear, to show that Israel has recognized the terror organization. Shamir said 'Arafat does not want peace, but a Palestinian Arab state in Israel.

IDF Kills 2 'Terrorists' Outside Security Zone

TA0706045089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Two terrorists were killed last night by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops north of the security zone in Lebanon. Our forces did not sustain any casualties.

The incident took place during an operation initiated by the IDF outside the security zone with the aim of foiling terrorist plans for actions against Israel. Near the village of Kafr Hunah, situated less than 2 km [as heard] north of Marj 'Uyun, the IDF squad identified two terrorists, opened fire, and killed them. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the squad belonged to the Golani Brigade, and the terrorists who were killed probably belonged to the Hizballah.

The SLA [South Lebanese Army] also participated in the IDF-initiated operation. Yesterday a SLA force operated outside the security zone to search for Hizballah terrorists and firearms. SLA soldiers found and destroyed arms caches belonging to the Hizballah.

The SLA daylight raid caused a great deal of tension in the region. Hizballah terrorists were seen fleeing the area, some throwing away their arms. Our correspondent adds that yesterday's IDF and SLA activities north of the security zone were in reaction to terrorists' efforts during the past 10 days to infiltrate into Israel.

Military sources stressed that the IDF will continue to initiate activities, including in areas outside the security zone, as it did yesterday.

More Hizballah-Palestinian Cooperation Noted

TA0706083989 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Jun 89 p 2

[Report by defense correspondent Kenneth Kaplan]

[Text] Qiryat Shemona—Cooperation between Palestinian terrorist organizations and the Shi'ite Hizballah in South Lebanon has been increasing steadily over the last few months as Hizballah has sought more effective ways of striking Israeli targets and has learned to circumvent the moderate Shi'ites under Amal.

According to senior defence officials, Hizballah has been forced into a marriage of convenience with the Palestinian groups under George Habash, Nayif Hawatimah and Tal'at Ya'qub for two major reasons: its repeated frustration in carrying out attacks across the security zone, and its realization of the need to form alignments with other factions on the Lebanese scene.

"Hizballah is looking for a way to be a partner in attacks against us. On its own it hasn't succeeded," one senior military source told THE JERUSALEM POST. "It's looking for methods that are more efficient."

It is not clear how durable this marriage will be, officials say. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has yet to find the means to create the opposing interests that would end the relationship.

Military sources note that, while there was a long lull between the current spate of infiltration attempts and the last, earlier this spring, the security zone remains "hot," with most of the activity being initiated by Hizbullah.

During the lull, the IDF did not have a clear answer as to why there was less action. One explanation was that Amal was interested in maintaining peace in South Lebanon as long as the area was flooded with tens of thousands of refugees fleeing the fighting in Beirut.

Defence officials acknowledge that Amal's interests have not changed in the last two weeks, but note that it has a limited ability to prevent attacks—especially in the east.

"Amal doesn't have the strength to stop it all," THE POST was told.

"They're stronger in some areas and weaker in others.

"Yet there is no successor to Da'ud Da'ud, there is no one authority who can set and enforce policy."

One of the classic forms of cooperation between Hizbullah and the Palestinians is for Hizbullah to provide guides and bases from which to launch infiltration attempts. Such was the case 10 days ago when a terrorist squad was intercepted on its way to Metulla, shortly after the Hizbullah-launched Katyusha rocket landed at the northern town.

However, Hizbullah cannot offer the Palestinians close contact among the population in the south. "This is one of our greater successes in the security zone, that we can say that the residents consider themselves partners in keeping the area clean of terrorists," one official said.

"It goes beyond military aid to the SLA," he continued. "If the IDF were to behave incorrectly towards the civilian population, create friction and cause problems with their work, then we wouldn't have the same level of cooperation.

"We provide health and education services. There's no government in Beirut to take care of these things. The people live with a feeling of tranquillity, not pressure. This is our success."

IDF: 'No Information' on Helicopter Attack

TA0706130089 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Sources close to the Hizballah today claimed that three of the organization's members were injured in Lebanon during an attack by Israeli Air Force helicopters. The sources told the REUTER agency in Sidon that the helicopters had strafed Hizballah positions in the village of Jba', north of the security zone in southern Lebanon.

The sources reported that the three men were on their way to perpetrate a terrorist attack in the security zone, adding that the Hizballah launched two katyusha rockets at the town of Marj 'Uyun this morning.

Responding to these reports, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman told a REUTER correspondent that he has no information on any Israeli helicopter attack in Lebanon today.

Shamir: 'Too Early' To Discuss Ties With Iran

JN0606144789 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0930 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Rosette Hakim's dispatch carried within the "With the Midday Events" program]

[Text] The terrorist organizations have recently escalated their attempts to encroach on our northern border through infiltrations into the border villages with the aim of killing and spreading terrorism. However, the Israel Defense Forces [IDF] are lying in wait to foil all their attempts. This was affirmed by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in a statement to the "With the Midday Events" program.

Answering a question on Israel's position on the meeting to be held between representatives of the United States and the PLO in Tunisia, Shamir said: We have always opposed the contacts between the United States and the terrorist organization. We do not need to present additional reasons for our opposition. We are monitoring events on our northern border and consider this further proof that these contacts cannot contribute to changing the destructive nature of the terrorist organizations.

On whether Shamir believes that it is possible to establish relations between Iran and Israel in the wake of Ayatollah Khomeyni's death, Shamir said: It is too early to comment on this.

Egypt's Ghali To Make Working Visit 'in 5 Days'

TA0606163089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, will come to Israel on working visit in 5 days. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Ghali will bring a message from President Mubarak to Prime Minister Shamir.

Ghali is the highest-ranking Egyptian to visit Israel in recent years.

Egyptian Ambassador Muhammad Basyuni this evening brought a reply from the Egyptian foreign minister to Minister Arens on the Casablanca conference.

Basyuni on Ghali Visit

JN0706085689 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, will arrive in Israel on Sunday on a 2-day official visit during which he will meet with Israeli officials.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens received a letter from his Egyptian counterpart Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid this evening in reply to the message he had sent last week asking for clarifications about Egypt's position on the peace process in light of the Casablanca summit resolutions. The Egyptian Ambassador to Israel delivered this letter.

Our correspondent for political affairs Shlomo Ganor interviewed the Egyptian ambassador.

[Begin recording] [Ganor] What have you brought with you?

[Basyuni] I carry a message from Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid in reply to the letter Moshe Arens had sent him.

[Ganor] What are its contents?

[Basyuni] Let us first deliver this letter.

[Ganor] Can you tell us the trend of this letter?

[Basyuni] The trend is that Egypt still abides by the peace treaty and that Egypt's position at the Arab summit was clear. This position is that Egypt adopts the peace strategy as as firm strategy at present and in the future, and that we also hope that Israel will move with us along this course, will pave the way, and will enhance confidence-building measures so that we may all move in the right direction.

[Ganor] Are there any arrangements to hold high level Israeli-Egyptian meetings?

[Basyini] God willing, Dr Butrus Ghali will come to Israel next Sunday.

[Ganor] Is this visit in reply to ...

[Basyini, interrupting] The visit is within the framework of consultations and pushing the peace process ahead. [end recording]

Labor Party Urged To Leave Coalition

TA0606134489 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Jun 89 p 13

[Commentary by Yo'el Marcus: "To Consider Leaving the Government"]

[Text] I do not believe it! The Labor Party wants to set up a committee to investigate the reasons for its failure at the polls. After being hit on the head time after time and public opinion polls totally knocking it out, why has it suddenly thought to investigate the problem? What can the committee come up with? That everyone in the nation has to be replaced? That we should all move to a relaxed country like Denmark? That the Alignment's top ten leaders should be replaced with the Likud's top ten, and Peres should be replaced with Shamir?

What will an investigation—with witnesses, mutual recrimination and the gloomy atmosphere it will impose on that luckless party—discover that it does not already know? I will not, however, be surprised if a committee is set up, although many are opposed to it. There is not a single mistake that this party could have made that it did not make. It twice saved the Likud from total demise when it joined in a ruling partnership and gave legitimacy to wiping out from public memory the Likud's failures. When it was already in partnership, it conspired against the prime minister by carrying out secret negotiations with Husayn and the Americans, and in the end blew the agreement it reached with Husayn and damaged its own image. If it is allowed to make 7 mistakes, it will make 14.

What is there to investigate anyway? Who pulled the rug from under their feet if not they themselves, since their leadership did not give the public a single convincing reason why the Labor Party should be preferred to the Likud? The problem is not a personal one as many are inclined to believe. Both large parties are not headed by inspiring leaders. Although the Likud's second rank has a lot of likeable personalities, it is not because of them that the Likud keeps its status. The problem is more because of the blurred dividing line between the two parties' ideology.

On the socioeconomic level, it appears that the two parties have changed roles: The Likud now represents more the working man, while the Labor Party is more representative of the middle and upper classes. In view of that, the Labor Party's socioeconomic message looks a little archaic—it combines socialism and the division of the state's resources to artificially keep alive economic roots which no longer have any right to existence with talk about free initiative. How is the Alignment different from the Likud?

In fact, there are those who claim that only in the political world view is there is deep division between the two big parties. The division here is deep. The problem is that it is difficult to discern. The reason is the Labor Party leaders' compulsive aspiration to be partners in governing. The high price they pay in exchange for a Volvo limousine and all the other goodies is the complete responsibility they take for the government's policy. What Labor Party leaders say behind closed doors is unimportant; it is incontrovertible that the Likud's policy, whose main plank is keeping the territories through any means, is the government's policy line. The Labor Party conforms with this policy whether knowingly or not, in view of the law on joint government responsibility.

Yitzhaq Rabin, for instance, appears as someone who implements the Likud's policy with his iron-fisted policy toward the intifadah [uprising] and his soft approach toward the settlers. On the face of it, it seems that Rabin has the authority to act forcefully against those who take the law into their own hands, and had he done so, he would have been carrying out his party's wishes. In fact, however, he treats the settlers with the same leniency with which Shamir treats them: "They are not right, but I understand them." It is no wonder that there are many in the Likud who say that it is "a pity that Rabin does not join the Likud," which proves how undefined the Labor Party's policy line is and how indistinguishable the differences between the two parties are.

Right now, when the Likud's policy line is so unequivocal, the Labor Party does not provide an alternative. That is the heart of the problem, so what is there to investigate?

The question that should be asked is what is the Labor Party still looking for in this government? Peres himself does not believe either in the peace initiative, for which he voted in favor, or the intentions behind it. It is absolutely clear that the Herut Central Committee will chain Shamir down to prevent him from accepting changes or concessions that the Americans will demand from us so that the initiative can be implemented. If that party wants to offer the public an alternative to the Likud's policy line, it must sharpen it positions and offer the electorate a different path, and there is no better time to do that than during these current confused times. The Labor Party cannot prepare itself as an alternative and at the same time sit with the Likud in the same government.

One cannot live with the Likud and act as though that was not the true situation. It is neither credible nor taken seriously.

The conclusion is that the Labor Party does not need an inquiry committee. It should be preparing itself to win the next elections, which will probably take place before their scheduled date, and this time will be focused on issues at the very core of the nation. The first condition for its rehabilitation is for it to pick up its feet and walk out of this government. The Likud plays the Likud and does not need the assistance of the Labor Party to play that role. The Labor Party had better play the role of an opposition and present an alternative to the insanity taking place here now.

Political Initiative Seen 'Bogged Down'

TA0206153789 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew (Leshabat supplement) 2 Jun 89 p 3

[Commentary by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat: "Stuck"]

[Text] The United States is waiting for Israel to answer its questions, to further develop and detail unclear clauses in its political initiative.

The PLO-Tunisia is waiting for the United States, a de facto mediator, to deliver the details of the Israeli initiative and take a position of its own on the issues in dispute.

The Palestinian leadership in the territories—and let us call a spade a spade: the PLO-territories—is waiting for the PLO-Tunisia to give them the go-ahead and their blessing to begin contacts toward political negotiations with the Israeli leadership.

In the meantime we see a very typical Israeli picture, and a very real one at that—Shamir is waiting for Levi. He is waiting to see how, on what terms, and for what price, if at all, the Sharon-Levi-Moda'i trio can be broken up so that Shamir's majority is guaranteed in his own party's Central Committee. In any event, and perhaps not temporarily, the political initiative is seriously bogged down.

The United States wants, but does not know how, to pull it out of the mud. The PLO-Tunisia does not want to, and ultimately it cannot. What about Shamir? Shamir, who is struggling for his political survival, is no longer sure he wants the egg he has laid to hatch a practical plan. For the present, Shamir has dropped everything and is devoting himself to massaging David Levi's ego.

One thing, however, is not stuck and waits for no one: the intifadah [uprising]. One need not be a prophet to predict that it will escalate further.

In the beginning—and it was a brave step for the man portrayed as the champion of the status quo—there was the Shamir plan, or if you will, a Shamiric version of Rabin's plan. Its intention was serious and honest, and its aim was to break the political stalemate in our region. There are those in both the United States and Israel who would swear that Shamir meant that "this is it, and make it fast."

The conflicts did not take long to appear.

The United States did not entertain the illusion that once the plan was presented it would develop wings and become a detailed program needing only to be implemented in the area. On the other hand, the United States could not have predicted what Shamir himself failed to consider: namely, that his initiative would encounter such heavy opposition from the Sharon-Moda'i team, later to be joined by Levi. Each of these three can be suspected of having more than purely ideological-national motives behind their aspiration to rock the political system.

Angered at his colleagues for not falling all over themselves to forgive their movement's chairman for his close collaboration with the defense minister—the Alignment man who is so very loyal to the prime minister—Shamir, straitjacketed, sounded the "not-an-inch" slogan in an attempt to appease his right wing. This in turn motivated James Baker, who is concerned with having the PLO-Tunisia join the whole process, to drop his bombshell. His remarks opposing the vision of a Greater Israel came as a slap in the face to Arens and Shamir. Likud veterans, who had followed Shamir's initiative with bated breath, and not without hesitation and doubt, suddenly are tending to turn their backs on the prime minister.

Baker, and this has been said here before, has not actually expressed a new idea in comparison to what was said before in different words. He has, however, broken a sacred code. Instead of preaching the end of the occupation, or making a general statement demanding that Palestinian rights be respected, he attacked the very soul of the Jabotinsky movement by openly calling for—with a terrible lack of sensitivity—the abandonment of the vision of Greater Israel. It is almost as bad as urging an ultraorthodox Jew to forsake God. The U.S. secretary of state might tell the Likud followers that the dream of Eretz Yisra'el is unrealistic, he should not have told them not to dream it.

Not only did these remarks assist the Likud opposition, they also shocked Shamir and helped destabilize his position within the Likud. The remarks also outraged the settlers and the Gush Emunim Movement. They saw it as a signal that the last battle over Eretz Yisra'el has begun.

Another seriously damaging obstacle was introduced by the PLO-Tunisia. Having second thoughts, they began suspecting the Americans of manipulating, in a combined effort with Israel, the abolishment of the status of the PLO-Tunisia, not only in the first stage of elections and negotiations on the transitory arrangements, but also in the final stage of the negotiations on a permanent solution. That is why the PLO-Tunisia has increased its pressure on the PLO-territories. The latter were forbidden to meet Israeli leaders, and more terror was aimed at collaborators. Even those who repent, lay down their guns, and come in to mosques to ask for forgiveness are being beaten and/or executed under the instructions of the PLO-Tunisia.

Whichever way you look there are more clouds gathering. The situation is getting worse. The forecast is only one of escalation.

Shamir at first managed to roll the ball to the other side's court. The Americans were ready to fire the starting gun for the big Israeli-Palestinian agreement race. The obstacles that were introduced, both here and in Tunisia, caused the opening of the race to be canceled, and the runners to be disqualified. The race has not yet started. Right now the ball is nowhere, and the Americans—and we are not disclosing sources here, God forbid—are dazed and confused. They stare and wonder, and ask every Israeli minister passing by: What should we do now?

Thus, if the Americans are the horse to which the the wagon of the political process was to be hitched, it now seems that the horse is lying down and there is no telling when or how it will get back up.

In the meantime the political process is stuck, and we are stuck with the intifadah. Only the nay sayers on both sides are having a ball.

What a tragic ball it is.

Mitzna' Requests 'To Be Relieved' of Post

TA0606101589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Jun 89 pp 1, 10

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Excerpt] OC [Officer Commanding] Central Command 'Amram Mitzna' has requested to be relieved of his post and is expected to go on study leave this summer, military sources said yesterday.

The sources asserted that Mitzna''s scheduled departure comes at the end of the customary two-year period of command, and is not an early resignation. The sources noted that Mitzna's predecessor, Maj. Gen. Ehud Baraq, was OC for a year and a half.

Mitzna was appointed OC in May 1987, and, since the start of the uprising has been directly responsible for the army's efforts to put down the unrest in the West Bank. [passage omitted]

Bethlehem Mayor Frayj Withdraws Resignation

JN0606140289 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0930 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Ibrahim Shahid's dispatch carried within the "With the Midday Events" program]

[Text] Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj is now carrying out his duties and holding a special session at the municipality. Regrettably, we could not hold an interview with him.

A Bethlehem Municipality spokesman informed us that Mayor Ilyas Frayj this morning sent a cable to Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin announcing his resignation and protesting the closure of entrances to the Nativity Yard by army forces who prevented all cars from entering the yard. The municipality spokesman said that this is the second time the army forces have taken such measures without coordination with the municipality or informing it of the reasons behind these steps.

This morning the army forces prevented the mayor's vehicle from reaching the Nativity Yard, thus escalating the tension and triggering the mayor's protest against the step, making him tender his resignation. Senior officers from the Bethlehem Civil Administration arrived at the site and tried to settle things. Military roadblocks were removed and things were settled.

Informed sources at the Civil Administration said a short while ago that a problem occurred with the mayor at a military roadblock at one of the entrances to the Nativity Yard, thereby further escalating the situation. The competent parties resolved the problem and things were settled.

These are the recent developments with regard to Ilyas Frayj's resignation. Therefore, Ilyas Frayj withdrew his resignation.

Gush Emunim, Left-Wing Movement Issue Statement

TA0406051589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 4 June 89

[Text] Senior members of Gush Emunim and Hashomer Hatza'ir [ideological kibbutz left-wing youth movement] issued a joint communique calling for the preservation of the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] dignity and its independence. The communique condemns any attacks on soldiers and demands an end to the incitement between the various political camps in Israel.

The coordinated statement was formulated in the course of a meeting between members of the Judaea and Samaria council, Gush Emunim activists, and reserve officers belonging to kibbutzim of Hashomer Hatza'ir.

It was also decided to include in the joint communique a clause stipulating that the government and the IDF must guarantee the safety of the settlers in any part of the country. Another clause calls on all Israeli citizens to uphold the sanctity of life and to prevent any harm from coming to innocent Arabs.

This was reported by our correspondents Shlomo Raz and Yo'el Nir.

Rabin: Gaza Permits Not Discrimination

TA0706112589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said the issuing of permits to Gaza residents is not a form of discrimination. Speaking at the Knesset a few minutes ago, Rabin said the measures were purely for security and were intended to prevent such incidents as the kidnapping of the two soldiers. David Ze'ev reports:

Knesset Member Hayim Ramon said the decision not to grant entry to Gaza residents over the Green Line without the special permits represented the first step toward totally cutting off the territories. Ramon raised his proposal to, in fact, cut the areas off and establish, with international aid, an infrastructure that would enable Palestinian laborers to be self-sufficient with work in the territories. Ramon said the current policy decision by the defense establishment brought back memories of the arguments following the 6-Day War of what the relationship should be between those areas Israel captured in the war and the pre-war state. The head of the Labor faction said it was clear those who favored bringing laborers over the Green Line were mistaken, and the result has been Arab workers being taken advantage of through cheap labor and long hours—a system, according to Ramon, that makes it impossible to achieve coexistence and a true political dialogue.

But Ramon's proposal drew heckling from his own Labor colleagues, and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said a total cutting off would destroy both Israel's economy and Palestinian sources of income. The defense minister denied the Gaza entry permits decision was a step toward a total cut, saying it is only a way of preventing such incidents as the murder of soldier Avi Sasportas and the kidnapping of Ilan Sa'adon. Both, he said, believed to be carried out by Gaza residents. Knesset Member Rehav'am Ze'evi of Moledet was about to propose that the issue be taken up in committee, but Ramon, embarrassed by having the extreme rightwing Ze'evi as an ally, said he was dropping the motion satisfied with the defense minister's reply.

Residents Decry Permit Fees

TA0606180889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The Civil Administration has begun issuing entry permits into Israel to Gaza area residents. In the first stage, the permits were issued to residents of Bayt Lahiyah and Bayt Hanun villages. Authorities lifted curfews on these villages for a short while today in order to enable residents to receive their permits.

Several villagers were not issued the passes due to criminal or security offense records. Residents of Bayt Hanun village complained about having to carry the documents and particularly objected to being required to pay for the passes.

The distribution of permits will continue for several weeks.

Further on Incidents, Casualties in Territories

Firebomb Thrown at Bus

TA0506202089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] A firebomb was thrown at a No 160 bus near the Al-Khidr refugee camp while it was on its way to Qiryat

Arba'. No one was hurt. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the firebomb hit the side of the bus and caused a small fire. The fire, however, was extinguished by the passengers.

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] began searching the area. Another bus was sent to the scene to collect the passengers.

Our correspondent Arye Gus adds that following the firebomb attack the bus was damaged due to the sudden halt. One of the female passengers was subsequently injured and taken to the hospital.

Soldier Reportedly Misuses Koran

TA0606122089 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 29 May 89 p 2

[Report by Uri'el Ben-'Ami]

[Text] An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier has used pages of a Koran book in the toilet while posted in the village of Dayr Ballut north of Ramallah.

In the past few days a curfew was imposed on the village, and IDF soldiers who were posted there camped in the local school building. After they left, local residents found pages of the Koran lying on the school's lavatory floor smeared with excrement. In addition to that, pages of the Koran were found on a broken chair that was used as a toilet.

An examination has revealed that two out of the five copies of the Koran the school owned were missing.

The IDF spokesman refused to disclose the soldier's name or unit. He said in response: "The soldier apologized as soon as he found out that some of the printed paper he had used were pages of the Koran. The area commander has taken explanatory action to that effect."

In his response, the IDF spokesman did not specify that the books were used as toilet paper.

Rabin Regrets Incident

TA0606123289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 30 May 89

[Text] The defense minister has expressed his and the whole defense establishment's regret over the case of a soldier who used pages of the Koran in the toilet. Minister Rabin noted that instructions were issued to prevent the recurrence of such cases.

Weapons Found in Gaza Schools

TA0606134189 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 6 Jun 89 p 4

[Report by Mikhal Qedem]

[Text] Large quantities of knives, clubs, iron bars, and other weapons have recently been discovered in various schools throughout the Gaza Strip.

This was revealed by a military source in the Gaza Strip following Education Minister Yitzhaq Navon's suggestion to reopen the schools in the territories. The source claims that reopening the schools may have disastrous consequences, exclaiming incredulously that "we expose subversive activities in the midst of the schools, and the education minister proposes renewing classes in additional places so as to enable the students to organize themselves more easily."

HADASHOT learned that during the searches conducted by the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] it became evident that the demonstrators had stopped using the mosques as hiding places for their weapons. This is a result of the closure of eight mosques, in which firebombs, switch-blade knives, and daggers were found last month.

The commander of the Southern Command even announced that a wide-spread closure of mosques would be carried out if rioting inside the mosques continued.

This is the reason the weapon caches were moved to the school yards, and in some cases, into the school buildings themselves.

3 Gazans Sentenced

TA0606141989 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The Gaza military court imposed jail sentences of 2 years, with an additional 2-year suspended sentence, on two Gaza residents today. The court also fined each of the defendants 2,000 shekels.

The court convicted the defendants on the basis of their own confession and charges that were proven in court. The two men were accused of participating in disturbances and activities against the security forces, erecting roadblocks, setting tires on fire, and laying spikes across the road. They also threw stones at IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers, wounding one, and shattered street lamps.

They were caught while carrying out one of their operations and brought to trial.

A third defendant who was not accused of stone throwing, but who had cooperated with the others in other actions, was sentenced to 1 year in prison with an additional 18-month suspended sentence. He was also fined 1,000 shekels.

1 Killed, 2 Wounded in Gaza

TA0606162289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] One youth was killed and two people were wounded in Bayt Lahiyah in the northern end of the Gaza Strip in a clash with soldiers.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that 30 youngsters hurled stones at an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol. The soldiers fired rubber bullets and tear gas grenades, but when the youngsters failed to disperse the soldiers fired plastic bullets. The body of the dead person was snatched away from a Gaza hospital and buried.

Firebombs Thrown at IDF Vehicle

TA0606201689 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1930 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Three firebombs were thrown at an army vehicle in Nabulus. No casualties or damage were caused. IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops arrived at the scene and began searching for the culprits.

Teenager Dies of Wounds

TA0706065889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Jun 89 p 12

[Report by Mikhal Sela' and Joel Greenberg]

[Excerpts] Salim al-Atawna, the Al-Nusayrat teenager who was shot in the head on Monday, died yesterday at Tel Hashomer hospital. [passage omitted]

In clashes with troops in the West Bank yesterday, 10 Palestinians were reported injured, including an 18-year-old seriously wounded at the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp.

Arab sources said clashes erupted after settlers came to the camp for the second consecutive day and distributed leaflets demanding an end to stone-throwing attacks on Israeli cars.

A 17-year-old was wounded at Kifl Harith, the site of a settlers' rampage last week. Residents at Zawiyah reported that settlers had fired at water tanks on their roofs.

Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj said he would resign in protest over the IDF's closure of Manger Square, but reconsidered after speaking with Civil Administration head Shay Erez [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 0400 GMT on 7 June adds: "An explosive charge was discovered last night near the Jerusalem area village of Jabal al-Mukabar, the scene of recent clashes between police and Arab residents. Police sappers dismantled the charge and no one was hurt. The charge was discovered by a patrol of the Border Police."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 7 June reports that "the 5-day curfew on the town of Tulkarm was lifted this morning. The curfews on the Nur al-Shams and Tulkarm refugee camps, and the Dhannabah neighborhood continue. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that Tulkarm residents complained that their shops were broken into during the extended curfew and goods were stolen." The report goes on to say that "the general curfew on the Gaza Strip continues."]

Suspected Collaborator Killed

TA0706112689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] In Nabulus this morning, the body of 30-year-old Zayd Abu-Ras was found hanging from an electricity pole. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has sealed off the area and begun an investigation. Nabulus residents told a Voice of Israel reporter that the man was known to have aided Israeli authorities. However, Defense Ministry sources say there is apparently a criminal motive for the killing.

Israeli Run Down by Hebron Car

TA0706115289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Excerpts] In Hebron a short time ago, there was an attempt to run over an Israeli woman. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that an Arab-owned Volvo hit the woman, injuring her. When the vehicle tried to speed away, it was shot at by Jewish settlers and soldiers. The vehicle overturned and the driver was seriously injured. The police began an investigation. The Hebron information center said it has issued several warnings about attempts to run over Israelis. [passage omitted]

The general strike in Judaea and Samaria declared in mourning for the death of 'Umar al-Qasim, the veteran security prisoner, continues, but our correspondent Arye Gus points out that the strike is not complete and that shops have reopened in several towns. [passage omitted]

Brigadier General Shay Erez, the head of the Judaea and Samaria Civil Administration, conferred today with 15 businessmen from the Janin area. They told him of their problems, and complained about the dire economic situation in the region. Erez promised to study the issues they raised.

Yesterday, there was a similar meeting between Jordan Rift Valley farmers and a senior Civil Administration officer. The farmers complained that Jordan is creating obstacles against importing their produce, and called for compensation for the damage caused by last winter's cold spell. [passage omitted]

Houses Demolished in Gaza

TA0706134389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Two houses were demolished in the Ammar neighborhood of Gaza today. The houses belonged to youths who had hurled firebombs at Israeli vehicles. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the two youths had thrown firebombs at an Israeli truck, an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol, and at a truck carrying soldiers. They also tore down several electricity pylons in Gaza.

They were arrested approximately 1 month ago and confessed their deeds.

Soldier Jailed Third Time for Refusing Duty

TA0306152789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] Private 'Amit Levenhof, who is serving his compulsory military service, has been sentenced to 28 days incarceration for refusing to serve in the territories. This is the third consecutive prison term given to him. The above was reported by our military correspondents Karmela Menashe.

Another soldier who refused territories duty, Rami Hason, was jailed for 80 days. After his release he was called up for service in the Jordan Rift Valley. It has been reported that he is prepared to carry out his military duty there. Hason had served a total of 140 days in prison conducting his battle.

This afternoon, several Yesh Gvul [There Is a Limit] activists held a vigil near 'Atlit jail in solidarity with their comrades.

Man Convicted of Haifa Grenade Attack Sentenced

TA0506131289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] A Lod military court imposed a life sentence on 'Ali 'Abdallah 'Amira, 24, who hurled the grenade in Haifa's pedestrian mall 1 year ago, wounding 24 people.

Our correspondent Yisra'el Peretz reports that 'Amira was a member of a squad responsible for a series of attacks, including a stakeout on Knesset Member Refa'el Eytan's home at Tel 'Adashim before a planned assassination attempt.

King Receives Iraqi Minister, Saddam Message

JN0606184889 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Al-Nadwah Palace this evening Mr Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, Iraqi minister of transport and communications, who delivered to his majesty a written message from his brother His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

USSR Delegations Leave Amman 30 May

JN3005203789 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 May 89

[Text] General Dmitriy Aleksandrovich, chief of staff of the USSR Ground Forces and first deputy commander in chief of the USSR Ground Forces, and his delegation left Amman today after a visit of several days to Jordan during which he met with a number of officials and visited a number of military, cultural, and historical cites in the Kingdom.

He was seen off at the Queen 'Alya' International Airport by the assistant chief of staff for operations and training, the Soviet ambassador in Amman, the Soviet military attache, and a number of officers.

The Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society delegation also left Amman today after a week-long visit to Jordan during which it met with a number of officials and discussed with them ways of developing bilateral ties between the two friendly countries in various domains.

In a predeparture statement to the PETRA-JNA correspondent, Nicolay Tsakha, the head of the Soviet delegation, praised the strong ties binding Jordan and the USSR in all fields, stressing the effective role of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society in this regard. Tsakha expressed his gratitude to the Jordanian king, government, and people for the hospitality accorded to the Soviet delegation during the visit. He noted the progress Jordan has realized in various fields under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn, reiterating the USSR's role in support of Arab causes, led by the Arabs' first cause of Palestine.

Crown Prince Hasan Cited on Economic Situation

JN3005185689 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 May 89

[Excerpt] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan today visited the Public Security brigade. His Highness met with the officers, noncomissioned officers, and enlisted personnel of the brigade. He conveyed to them the greetings of His Majesty King Husayn, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, and his pride in them.

The crown prince paid tribute to the ability of the Jordanian individual to face up to all challenges through the solidarity and cooperation of the one Jordanian family. He added: Jordan has built a worthy civilizational edifice. It has always depended on its Jordanian individual who is truly considered as the real wealth of this homeland.

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince reviewed the international and regional economic circumstances and their negative effects on the economies of the entire region. He also spoke about the importance of depending on our own resources at this stage and about using them to serve our developmental objectives in order to benefit the homeland and the citizen. [passage omitted]

King Husayn Commends New Central Bank Chief

JN2805194089 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 28 May 89

[Text] His majesty the king today addressed a message to Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi in which he congratulated him and expressed his appreciation and confidence in Dr al-Nabulsi on his appointment to his new post as governor of the Central Bank, which, his majesty said, is the vital institution entrusted with running the basic sector in the country's economic and financial structure.

His majesty praised Dr al-Nabulsi as efficient, experienced, and far-sighted in all the posts he assumed. His Majesty said he was confident that Dr al-Nabulsi will use all his experience and efficiency to invigorate the role of the Central Bank to restore the monetary stability to the country. His majesty said he is also confident that the Central Bank, as a legally independent institution, will contribute with an effective consultant role in the national adjustment process.

Bank Governor Declines Comment on Gold Sales

JN2905162889 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 28 May 89 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman—"I do not confirm, I do not deny, and I will not comment." This was in reply to AL-SIYASAH by Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi, governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, on some news agencies' reports that Jordan sold a third of its official gold reserves during the past 6 months in order to provide the required financial liquidity.

Jordan's gold reserves are approximately 1 million ounces. If the reports on which the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan declined to comment are true, we can say that Jordan has sold gold worth approximately $150 million.

AL-SIYASAH was also assured that the Central Bank of Jordan will issue new monetary and financial resolutions within 1 week in order to provide flexibility in transfers and documentary credits.

Columnist on Gold Reserves Sale

JN0206104989 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Jun 89 p 18

["Highlights" column by Dr Fahd al-Fanik: "The Selling of Gold Reserves"]

[Excerpts] Two years ago the government thought of selling all or part of the gold reserves to make available foreign currency liquidity for the Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ] and to achieve a capital gain that would be revenue for the treasury. [passage omitted]

The idea of selling the gold was abandoned, but temporarily. And when the decision was made to sell it to postpone the crisis, the matter remained secret out of the decisionmaker's acknowledgement that the decision was not an economic, financial, or morale boost.

What happened is that one-third of the gold reserves was sold 8 months ago—that is, before floating and releasing the dinar from the special drawing rights. And the proceeds of the sale of gold were depleted within a few days or even hours. The book value of the remaining two-thirds was increased by 50 percent to maintain the value of the gold in the CBJ's budget so that the monthly budget would not reveal the process.

The process of liquidating the gold is not a shameful act because gold does not differ much from any foreign currency. And exchanging the gold for dollars does not differ from transferring pounds sterling to deutsche marks. However, hiding the important decision from the ministers, the members of the CBJ Board of Directors, and all the people was a shame. The pretexts that disclosing the sale would affect morale and further exacerbate the situation and that public opinion would oppose it are correct, but these pretexts could have prevented the sale, not hidden it.

What we have to say also is that liquidating the gold took place through two methods—selling it at a good price and exchanging it, swap [preceding word in English]. And the loss in this operation is represented by the loss of the amount of interest on the dollars and the drop in the price of gold.

The important thing is that the CBJ still possesses two-thirds of the gold. Now that one-third has gone, we ask God to grant us a long life.

IMF Official 'Optimistic' About Reforms

JN0106092789 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 1 Jun 89

[Text] Amman—Dr 'Abd al-Shakur Sha'lan, head of the IMF's Middle East Department, has delivered a lecture at the Jordanian Banks Society which was attended by the banks general managers and prominent figures from the financial sector.

The lecturer dealt with the financial situation in Jordan and the economic readjustment program, which Jordan adopted with the help of the IMF's technical assistance. He said: Principally, this program represents a national program which the Jordanian state decided to adopt in order to restore equilibrium to, and confidence in the Jordanian economy.

The lecturer added: The Jordanian economy experienced a period of continuous economic growth which lasted until the mid-eighties; and, during that period, Jordan achieved tangible economic stability. By the mid-eighties, Jordan suffered from the economic recession which afflicted the Middle East. This resulted from the shrinkage of external aid and transfers from abroad while exports remained relatively weak due to the low price internationally of Jordan's main exports. This resulted in an economic slowdown which was accompanied by a budget deficit.

The lecturer added: In order to remedy this situation, the government expanded its expenditure to meet the national needs and depended on foreign and domestic borrowing with a relatively high interest rate. This led to the consumption of Jordan's foreign currency reserves and to increasing the deficit in the state's general budget which reached 25 percent of the gross national product, while the deficit in the current account of the balance of payments reached 6 percent of the gross national product. In order to remedy this situation, Jordan adopted a national plan for integrated economic reform with the aim of resuming growth and controlling inflation by reducing the deficit in the general budget, controlling monetary expansion, and reducing the gap in the current account of the balance of payments so as to achieve a surplus that will allow the gradual building of Jordan's foreign currency reserves.

The lecturer reviewed the components of the economic reform program and said he is optimistic that the program is sound and heading in the right direction and will achieve the expected success. He also said that the foreign cash flow will enable Jordan to meet its commitments and achieve a surplus that will enable it to realize the objective of building its foreign currency reserves.

Sha'lan added: In order to render the economic reform program a success, Jordan cooperates with the IMF to provide the necessary foreign resources which will enable it to achieve its objectives in this regard. With the IMF's support, Jordan has asked the Paris Club to reschedule its governmental loans; and the necessary contacts are currently underway to reschedule part of the merchant banks' loans. This will reduce Jordan's external burdens in the coming 5 years. Jordan's ability to repay its debts will improve and Jordan's national exports will achieve satisfactory ratios of growth during that period.

Concluding his lecture, Dr 'Abd al-Shakur Sha'lan said: Compared to other states Jordan was not late in adopting the reform program. This will help achieve the economic reform program, which is made easier by the fact that the Jordanian state strongly supports the program. In order to achieve its desired objectives, the economic reform program must be provided with broad popular support and understanding. The program is based on confidence in the economic measures and the reform program. Jordan made a good start, and I believe that it will achieve tangible positive results over the program's 5-year period.

The lecture was attended by the deputy prime minister and minister of state for economic affairs, the minister of culture and information, and finance minister.

Jerusalem Arabic on Drought, Devalued Dinar

JN3105080689 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 May 89

[Text] The current wave of drought in Jordan has prompted the authorities to rationalize the distribution of water in Amman and the northern cities as of today. Our correspondent reports that this decision is aimed at securing more water for crops, which have been harmed by a drought unprecedented in Jordan over the past 70 years. The wheat crop is expected to drop to half the size of last year.

The governor of the Central Bank of Jordan last night announced the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar by 5 percent. Thus, the dinar has lost 40 percent of its value against the dollar over the past year.

Israeli Air, Ground Raids Reported 7 Jun

NC0706055289 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Israel yesterday launched air and ground raids in the Birkat Jabbur and Maydun areas. Resistance fighters confronted the aggressors, forcing them to retreat.

The occupation forces' artillery fired about 50 shells at these areas to prepare for an advance toward them, but the resistance fighters were able to check the aggressors after a 3-hour confrontation.

In the Al-'Urqub area, the occupation forces fired scores of flares over Shab'a and Kafr Shuba and along the international border.

Israeli Forces Attack in South

NC0706091689 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] An Israeli mechanized force advanced to the edge of the Al-Litani River this morning and raked the surrounding woods. The force was still in the area until after 1100 today.

According to reports from the south received a short while ago, Israeli aircraft raided the hills surrounding Jba' at 1030 today. The same area came under artillery fire from the occupation forces' positions on Sujud Hill this morning.

SLA Bombardment Reported

NC0706092689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Israeli helicopters flew intensive sorties over Jba' and its environs in Iqlim al-Tuffah this morning. Meanwhile, the South Lebanese Army [SLA] is currently bombarding 'Arab Salim and Jba' from its positions in Jabal Safi.

Israeli Helicopters Raid Mlita

NC0706095289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0948 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Israeli helicopters raided Tallat Mlita in Iqlim al-Tuffah at 1030 today. There have been no immediate reports on the results of the Israeli raid.

Beirut Reports Israeli Raids

NC0706162189 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 jUN 89

[Text] An Israeli enemy's helicopter formation carried out two successive raids on Tallat Mlita in Iqlim al-Tuffah at 1030 this morning causing a fire to break out in Buslayya woods. The enemy paved the way for the raids by a concentrated artillery shelling of Jba' township at 1000. After the raid, warplanes continued to circle Tallat Mlita and Buslayya. They then flew over Sidon and the camps, carrying out several mock raids.

UN Envoy Protests Israeli Raids

NC0706152589 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Jun 1989

[Text] Lebanon has protested the Zionist practices in a message sent by Ambassador Rashid Fakhuri [Lebanese envoy to the United Nations] to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. In his message, Fakhuri protested the [Israeli] air raids and attempts to link the telephone communications network between the border strip villages and the enemy entity.

3 Katyushas Hit Israeli Post in Marj 'Uyun

NC0706153789 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Three Katyusha rockets fell on a Zionist command headquarters in the Khayrallah Salamah Barracks in Marj 'Uyun this morning. Three intelligence and Lahd men were reported to have received various injuries.

Causalties Reported in Clashes, Shelling

NC0606062089 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0430 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Guarded calm prevails along the various confrontation lines in the mountain where clashes involving the use of automatic weapons and rockets took place last night, particularly on the 'Alayh, Dahr al-Wahsh, 'Aytat, Suq al-Gharb, Al-Ma'rufiyah, Bsaba, Al-Shuwayfat, and Kafr Shima lines. The shelling of 'Alayh left five people wounded. One seriously wounded civilian was taken to the American University hospital.

Shells fell at dawn today in the areas of the military beach, 'Ayn al-Muraysah, Al-Manarah, Al-Rawshah, and Ra's Bayrut.

According to 431 people have been killed and 1,826 others wounded since 14 March.

Militia Shells West Beirut

NC0606192789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] 'Awn's militia has resumed its shelling of the nationalist areas. Tonight, this militia fired artillery shells at the military beach and 'Ayn al-Muraysah in West Beirut.

Meanwhile, a guarded calm reigns in Maydun and 'Ayn al-Tinah in western Al-Biqa', where joint Israeli-Lahd forces carried out a wide-scale combing operation before retreating into the so-called security strip.

Syrians Shell Beirut Port

NC0606194689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Syrian artillery emplacements in 'Ayn al-Muraysah and the Normandie area of West Beirut bombarded the Kasrawan coast between 2050 and 2130 tonight. At about 2135 the bombardment extended to inland areas. Two shells fell in Al-Mu'amalatayn.

Dear listeners, we have just been informed that shells fell in Beirut port 15 minutes ago and that the shelling is continuing.

Clashes on Kafr Falus Front

NC0706113489 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Intermittent clashes took place from dawn until noon today on the Kafr Falus, Lib'a, and 'Ayn al-Mir confrontation lines between positions of the popular liberation army-the Ma'ruf Sa'd forces and the agents' positions.

These clashes were accompanied by overflights of Israeli warplanes, which reached the mountain and Beirut in their provocative sorties.

Group Claims Attack on Syrian Patrol

NC0706084789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The Beirut Martyrs Battalion has declared that one of its units used rockets and machineguns to attack a Syrian occupation patrol in the Zuqaq al-Balat area of West Beirut at 0400 today.

Birri on 'Awn's Rejection of Summit Resolution

NC0706134789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Amal Movement Leader Nabih Birri has accused the Eastern area leaders of attempting to dilute and delay the Arab solutions. He emphasized that the system must be changed, not individuals.

He said that through his news conference 'Awn aimed to stress his refusal to accept the Arab summit resolution.

Noting the danger in talk about expanding the so-called military government, Birri said this means an attempt to suppress the greatest political and parliamentary forces in the eastern area by promising them government posts in a bid to resist the Arab resolution.

Hizballah Sends Cable of Support to Khamene'i

NC0706084089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The Hizballah in Lebanon has sent a cable to Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the blessed Islamic revolution. The cable says in part: Your propitious election, which was inspired by the will of Imam Khomeyni, may God bless his soul, has reassured the nation of Hizballah in Lebanon and the world,frustrated the hopes of the enemies of Islam, and delighted the soul of the founding leader.

We appreciate the greatness of the imam who held you in trust. We also appreciate the heavy responsibility entrusted to you. We pledge to obey you and to make heavy sacrifices in order to implement your rulings and guidelines.

We pledge to God Almighty that we will be loyal to the course of Imam Khomeyni under your wise leadership, safeguard the revolution's achievements, and fulfill its goals.

Fadlallah Cables Support

NC0706084389 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Ayatollah al-Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has sent the following cable to Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Imam Khomeyni's successor:

His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, may his shadow be extended.

Your election as leader of the Islamic Republic is a sure guarantee for the genuine Islamic line begun by the imam of the nation as a thought, movement, and program of life and as a revolution against global arrogance. This is due to your loyalty, knowledge, and long experience in Islamic revolutionary and political life.

We ask God to help you shoulder this great responsibility so that the Islamic Republic under your era will augment its unity, strength, and movement as a base for the world Islamic movement.

AMAL Issues Statement

LD0706085189 Tehran IRNA in English 0650 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Beirut, June 7, IRNA—Lebanon's Amal movement Tuesday [6 June] voiced support for the election of Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i as the new leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In a statement issued here Tuesday, the movement hailed the Assembly of Experts for their speedy election which it said had served to block the way to the enemies of Islam.

The statement expressed assurance that the new leader of the Islamic Republic will continue to support the struggles of the Lebanese mujahidin to liberate their country from Zionist occupation.

President Khamene'i was elected the leader of the Islamic Republic by the Assembly of Experts Sunday, a day after the passing away of Imam Khomeyni.

Fatah Announces Palestinian's Assassination

NC0706142789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The Fatah-Revolutionary Council issued a statement today announcing the death of Palestinian trade unionist Nafidh 'Awdah, who was assassinated in the Cola area in Beirut yesterday with a silencer-equipped pistol.

The statement said the assassination was an attempt by imperialist and Zionist services to undermine the revolution in every way. The statement warned that the hand of punishment will reach the agents, wherever they are.

Soviet Envoy Calls Situation 'Very Critical'

NC0706111289 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Vasiliy Kolotusha has described the Lebanese situation as very critical. He hopes that the tripartite committee Will be able to achieve success.

Kolotusha, who called on Minister Nabih Birri today, denied any knowledge of Soviet moves at this stage coinciding with current Arab efforts.

Al-Asad Offers Condolences at Iranian Embassy

JN0606125189 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Damascus—President Hafiz al-Asad visited the Iranian Embassy in Damascus today to offer his condolences on the death of Ayatollah Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. President Hafiz al-Asad was received upon arrival by the Iranian ambassador in Damascus and the embassy staff.

The president wrote the following note in the embassy's condolences book: On this day of grief and mourning and with deep sorrow over the late jurisconsult, Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I renew on behalf of the Syrian Arab people and in my name our heartfelt condolences to the Muslim people in Iran, to the great imam's family, to the Islamic leadership in Iran, and to all Muslims. Imam Khomeyni lived great and died great after he gave the best example in faith and abstinence, after he honestly defended Islam's values, after he carried the message to which millions have responded, and after he struggled for the sake of Islam and its principles and power. In his struggle, he was the leader of a revolution whose influence will continue all over the world. We are fully confident that the Islamic revolution in Iran will continue and will remain successful in spreading its message.

Then the president expressed to the ambassador and the imam's representative his feelings of deep sorrow on this occasion. The president left the embassy amid manifestations of thanks and appreciation.

Franjiyah Meets Al-Asad in Damascus, Departs

JN3005200089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 30 May 89

[Text] At 1330 this afternoon, President Hafiz al-Asad received former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah accompanied by Robert Franjiyah and Sulayman Tony Franjiyah.

Talks centered on the situation in Lebanon in light of the works and resolutions of the extraordinary Arab summit in Casablanca. President Franjiyah expressed his appreciation of the prominent effort exerted by the president during the summit for the benefit of Lebanon and Syria. He expressed his conviction that the national solution in Lebanon requires brotherly cooperation with Syria.

President Hafiz al-Asad affirmed the necessity of dialogue between the Lebanese brothers and said: Syria will remain by the side of all the Lebanese brothers in their efforts to move out of the existing abnormal situation and will provide them with every possible support to reach a stage of national reconciliation.

President Franjiyah and Robert and Sulayman Tony Franjiyah lunched with his excellency the president.

President Franjiyah left Damascus this evening. He was seen off by Wahib Fadil, minister of state for presidential affairs.

Information Minister Meets Soviet Journalists

JN0306163689 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] Damascus—At noon today in northern Osetia, Information Minister Muhammad Salman received the delegation of Soviet Journalists' Union, headed by Kisayev, deputy head of the Journalists' Union, which is visiting Syria upon invitation from the Journalists' Union in the country. The meeting was attended by Dr Sabir Falhut, head of the Syrian Journalists' Union.

The minister reviewed briefly the interests on which the Syrian media concentrates, foremost of which is revealing the nature of the Israeli aggression against the Arab nation and the enemy practices against the citizens in the occupied Arab territories.

The minister pointed out the importance given by the media in the country to the developmental, social, and economic issues. He also discussed the strategy of work in the media and the importance of the role played by it to reveal all forms of injustice and oppression in the world. He pointed out the importance of media in bringing closer the various peoples.

The Soviet news delegation head briefed the minister on the efforts of the Journalists' Union in the Soviet Union to increase cooperation with the Syrian Journalists' Union. This includes the exchange of expertise and delegations, in addition to everything else which could promote journalistic cooperation between the two friendly countries.

This morning, joint cooperation relations between our country's Journalists' Union and the Soviet Journalists' Union delegation were reviewed when Journalists' Union Head Dr Sabir Falhut received the guest delegation.

Talks centered on the necessity of developing cooperation agreements between the two journalistic organizations in the two friendly countries—Syria and the Soviet Union—thus achieving special support for their joint struggle for the dignity, liberty, and future of their people.

Al-Asad Sends Condolences to Gorbachev

JN0606162089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has sent a cable to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in which he expressed in his name and on behalf of the Syrian Arab people deep sorrow and heartfelt condolences over the disaster that caused the death and injury of hundreds of Soviet citizens in the incident involving the two trains. He also expressed his condolences to the families of the victims, the friendly Soviet people, and the Soviet Government as well as his wishes that the wounded will recover soon.

Paper Interviews Foreign Ministry Official

AU3005102589 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 18 May 89 p 2

[Interview with Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs, by correspondent Viktor Palfi: "Under the Magic Spell of Strategic Parity—The Independent Line in Damascus"—in Damascus; date not given]

[Text] Hungary established diplomatic relations with the Syrian Arab Republic 35 years ago. Since then, our bilateral political, economic, and cultural contacts have proliferated, and our mutually advantageous cooperation has developed steadily. The friendship between our two peoples has also increased during the three Arab-Israeli wars that broke out in this period. Hungary has always valued highly Syria's positive role in the crisis-ridden Middle East. We both agree that this crisis should be solved by peaceful political means, in a comprehensive and just way, and by implementing the rights of the Palestinian Arabs. This principled basis of our friendship has stood the test of time, and our solidarity with Syria is steady. Nasir Qaddur received our correspondent and answered a few questions about the country's current foreign policy and our bilateral relations.

[Palfi] Mr Minister, have you noticed any essential change in Soviet policy in the Middle East since Mikhail Gorbachev became head of the Soviet Union?

[Qaddur] I do not see any essential change in the Soviet policy in this region. This socialist great power continues to support a comprehensive peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis; the Soviet Union continues to demand the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories and to urge the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and an international conference that would have the task of laying the foundations of peace in this area. These are not new principles; for decades the Soviet Union has been steadily faithful to these principles and therefore we cannot say that its Middle East policy has changed.

[Palfi] Following his visit to Damascus recently, Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze also met with his Israeli colleague, Moshe Arens, in Cairo. To what extent would a possible Soviet-Israeli rapprochement affect Soviet-Syrian relations?

[Qaddur] If you are referring to the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, we do not believe that we will have to take this possibility into consideration, precisely because of the aforementioned Soviet principles which Israel rejects, and thus the two sides cannot come to an agreement. We have regular contacts with Moscow as stipulated by our bilateral agreement of friendship and cooperation. We are convinced that Israel would have to pay a serious political price for settling its relations with the Soviet Union, and we do not see any readiness for this in Israel.

[Palfi] Judging from certain signs, the Soviet leadership is no longer very enthusiastic about the basic principle of the Syrian Government, according to which the road to peace leads through a Syrian-Israeli strategic balance. Following his recent visit to Syria, Soviet Defense Minister Dimitriy Yazov made the following statement: "A huge military potential has already been accumulated in this area, a potential that is not proportional to the economic and demographic importance of these countries...." If your answer is, as I presume, that Syria does adhere to the principle of strategic parity, I have an additional question: Whose help do you have in mind in order to achieve this balance of power?

[Qaddur] We certainly do not want to give up the idea of strategic parity. However, we should make something clear. We are not only striving to achieve a military balance with Israel. Our people—who are part of the great Arab nation—also have a great potential in the economic and cultural areas, and our goal is to mobilize this potential and line it up against the enemy. We consider the opinions of our friend, but, in my view, when speaking about too much armament, Yazov thought only of Israel....

[Palfi] Incidentally, he referred to the entire region....

[Qaddur] This is not quite clear; we will ask Moscow for further explanation. Of course, in addition to our own resources, we primarily count on Soviet support in winning our battle for strategic parity.

[Palfi] Two months ago, in a TIME magazine interview, President al-Asad answered a relevant question by saying that "the current Syrian-Egyptian relations can be called as positive." Can we also say that, since then, the still cool relations between the two fraternal countries have further improved?

[Qaddur] The closer Egypt gets to the common Arab position, the more our relations will improve. We will react positively to every positive step. Egypt should take the initiative because, after all, it was not Syria that created Camp David. Concerning our relations, I am optimistic.

(The Syrian minister was unable either to confirm or deny my information that a meeting between Al-Asad, Mubarak, and Husayn [not further identified] will take place in Alexandria in the near future....)

[Palfi] The PLO and its head Yasir 'Arafat are accepted negotiating partners by most governments in the world. Only Israel and, suprisingly enough, Syria regard 'Arafat as the personification of all evils. Why is this so, and can we expect an official PLO delegation to visit Damascus in the near future?

[Qaddur] Let us disregard 'Arafat for now. A lot of Palestinian leaders—Habash, Hawatimah, Jibril, and others—are living here in Damascus. We oppose 'Arafat's policy of capitulation. From the beginning, Syria has claimed that the Palestinian issue is at the center of the crisis in the region, and it has supported the Palestinian people's struggle for independence. Therefore, it is a mistake to put Israel and Syria on the same level....

[Palfi] Only in this respect—I will make my question more precise.

[Qaddur] It is still a mistake, because Israel rejects not only 'Arafat but also the entire political solution to the crisis. On the other hand, Syria has made many sacrifices for the success of the struggle of its Palestinian Arab brothers. Irrespective of personalities, we will continue to do the same in the future.

[Palfi] In conclusion, let us talk about our bilateral relations. Our friendly relations have been undisturbed for many years. However, I have seen "clouds" gathering lately; Syria is represented only by a charge d'affaires in Budapest, while Hungary has an ambassador in Damascus, and I also heard that 27 Hungarian enterprises are on the boycott list in Syria. Sincerely, what is the problem between us?

[Qaddur] I do not see any clouds in our relations. There is no need to give particular importance to the fact that our embassy in Budapest is led by a charge d'affaires. Most of our embassies in the world are led by charges d'affaires. Besides, we will soon settle this issue in Budapest. As for the boycott list, this is not a Syrian measure, but a measure taken by the Arab League which stipulates that foreign firms which have trade relations with Israel be banned from Arab markets. I am convinced that all this cannot disturb our friendly relations, and our increasing exchange of goods shows this.

Commentary Condemns 'Awn Shelling of W. Beirut

JN0306134389 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Michel 'Awn, leader of the Zionized clique, has not given the Lebanese people much time to wait after he threatened to ignite the security situation. Since this morning, he has been shelling residential neighborhoods in West Beirut and the southern suburbs to further his conspiracy to destroy Lebanon—its people, land, and property.

The threats voiced by 'Awn and his agent clique have been escalating day after day. These threats went as far as publicly affirming through international news media that they will resume the process of the destruction of Beirut which they began more than 2 months ago when they initiated their indiscriminate shelling of West Beirut on 14 March—the shelling which has so far cost hundreds of victims.

The process of explosion escalated by 'Awn today coincides with the persistent moves and the intensive efforts being exerted in the Arab arena to implement the resolution of the recent extraordinary Casablanca Arab summit on finding a solution to the Lebanese problem. This solution would be based on the attainment of a Lebanese nationalist accord that would serve as a groundwork for introducing the required political reforms to pave the way for holding the presidential elections. Besides, this new escalation by Michel 'Awn and his clique also coincides with the escalation being carried out by the Zionist enemy and the Zionist settler gangs of the bloody campaign of repression against our people's intifadah [uprising] in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and the Golan—the repression which reached the extent of killing a mother and her infant yesterday.

All this confirms that 'Awn and his clique, in full coordination and cooperation with the Zionist enemy, are attempting to keep the Lebanese security situation on the boil. They are trying to do this so the three-member Arab committee will not be able to reach a solution to the Lebanese crisis and so that the crisis will remain confined to its present security framework pending an opportunity for imposing the partition which the isolationists have been trying to achieve since they created the Lebanese crisis more than 14 years ago.

However, the leaders of the Arab nation headed by Syria met in Casablanca, studied the Lebanese crisis carefully, and established the way to solve it through clear and numbered steps. These leaders cannot allow conspirators such as 'Awn to continue the conspiracy which is targeting the sovereignty, Arabism, and unity of Lebanon—land and people. All this confirms the Syrian Arab position which is that 'Awn and his Zionized clique are deeply involved in the conspiracy to partition Lebanon in cooperation with the Iraqi regime and the Zionist enemy. However, this conspiracy will not be allowed to succeed. It will be thwarted by the existing alliance between Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces which is supported by the entire Arab nation just as the ill-fated 17 May agreement was previously foiled.

Paper Cited on Lebanon Ties, Nation's Security

JN2605074889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 26 May 89

[From the Press Review]

[Text] On the importance of Lebanese reconciliation, the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says: Reconciliation is a national and pan-Arab necessity because it means the existence of secure Lebanon. This is also because Lebanon's security concerns Syria. If Syria's security is threatened, the whole of the Arab security will be threatened. Therefore, and as a result of this relationship, Syria considers Lebanon's security an issue upon which there should be no encroachment. Syria is concerned about protecting it just as it is concerned about defending its own security. On this pan-Arab basis, Syria adopts its firm stand and concentrates its material, military, and political efforts to face the forces that aim to divide and fragment Lebanon. It is natural to say that Syria—the stand and the decisionmaking—is the Lebanese people's guarantee and the power that protects Lebanon's security.

Life Under 'Fascist Regime' in Iraq Noted

JN2805164289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Baghdad—Reports from Iraq confirm that the conditions in which the Iraqi people live under the fascist regime led by Saddam Husayn have become very difficult. According to various sources, these reports reveal that children from northern Iraq are being sold in Baghdad and abroad.

Rumors are spreading inside Iraq to the effect that differences among the ruling family are continuing. It is said that Saddam has placed a number of family members under house arrest.

As for the execution of officers suspected of disloyalty to Saddam, the process is continuing day and night and reaches officers from the highest to lowest ranks. These executions are usually carried out en masse or by the method with which he liquidated Tahir 'Abd al-Rashid and 'Adnan Khayrallah, his defense minister.

A documentary film and photographs were shown in Geneva yesterday on the Iraqi regime's use of chemical weapons against residents of Halabjah city in northern Iraq. A discussion of the film followed. The speakers likened Halabjah's events to events of World War II and the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The speakers described the crime of Saddam Husayn's regime against Halabjah city as a genocidal crime. They condemned Saddam Husayn personally and held him responsibile for this crime.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Sends Congratulations to Khamene'i

LD0506171989 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] The following message of congratulations has been sent to Tehran by esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, on the occasion of the election of Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to the supreme post of the leadership and guidances of Iran's revolution:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Dear brother His Holiness Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the supreme leader and guide of Iran's revolution. I convey my sincere congratulations on the occasion of your worthy election to the post of the supreme leadership and guidance of Iran's revolution. I express wishes that under your efficient leadership, dear brother, who enjoys high credibility among the brothern people of Iran, the relations between our two Muslim and neighboring countries which have deep Islamic, historic, and cultural roots can develop on mutual respect and good neighborliness in the interests of our peoples and regional peace and security in the region.

Taking this opportunity, I express once again the good intentions of the state and people of the Republic of Afghanistan to consolidate and expand the friendly relations between both countries and wish that Almighty God grants you success in this high and responsible post.

Success comes from God.

Bhutto Reportedly Changing Foreign Policy

LD0706101489 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0500 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 6—BAKHTAR—According to Voice of America (VOA), Benazir Bhutto, prime minister of Pakistan, has decided to undertake an important role regarding the policy of that country on Afghanistan. She emphasised that the previous insistence of Pakistan on achieving a military victory was a fundamental mistake.

In an interview with WASHINGTON POST daily she stated that her new decision was emanating from the worry that the Afghan war can also threaten her government.

According to WASHINGTON POST the recent comment of Bhutto of new and different thinking regarding Afghanistan has been declared on the eve of her visit to Washington. In her interview, Benazir Bhutto expressed discontent regarding the complicated role of the Inter Service Intelligence of Pakistan in the Afghan war. She said that the Afghan issue should be placed at the top of the agenda of the discussion.

According to WASHINGTON POST the assertions of Bhutto reveal that she prefers the Afghan issue to constitute the main part of her talks with the President of the United States of Aamerica.

In its commentary WASHINGTON POST regarding the stand of Mrs. Bhutto writes that when Bhutto came to power, she continued the policy of Ziaul Haq regarding the supply of aid to opposition of the government of Afghanistan until a military victory amd the assistance to Afghan refugees. She kept in their duties the important figures of foreign policy makers for attracting the confidence of competent military circles of Pakistan and the United States.

Bhutto and her advisers were confident that if they opposed the Pak support to Afghan war, their relations would have been endangered with the Pakistani generals, while these generals had a tendency for a chance to democracy in Pakistan, the daily says.

WASHINGTON POST adds that after the failure of the offensive of armed opposition of the Government of Afghanistan in Jalalabad city, Bhutto was concerned that this would threaten her government and for this reason she urged the policy makers who schemed out Pak policy regarding Afghanistan to give a chance to her to have an important role in this regard.

Now Benazir Bhutto says: "Our shortcoming today is for the reason that yesterday we did not scrutinized precisely the interest of Pakistan. [no closing quotation marks as received] She claims: "In the talks on Afghan issue which resulted in the withdrawal of Soviet troops ground was prepared for the establishment of an interim acceptable government in Kabul, but we lost this chance and today we are discomfort of this mistake".

Benazir Bhutto in her interview said: "Military settlement is not bad for the reason that it has faced stalemate, but its option is bad because bloodshed is bad. It is better to have a negotiated settlement an a political settlement than one that is a military one.

"The armed opposition of the Government of Afghanistan should start negotiations with the Soviet Union on the Soviet prisoners of war and it is hoped that this talk would result in further contacts on other political issues," Benazir Bhutto said.

Mojaddedi Outlines New Shura Council's Role

PM0606152689 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 3 Jun 89 p 1

[Report on telephone interview with Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, "president of Muslim Afghanistan," by Muhammad Mahjub in Jeddah; date not given]

[Text] Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, president of Muslim Afghanistan, has confirmed the formation of a new shura council which will comprise 50 members. In an exclusive interview with 'UKAZ, he said that members of the new council are to be selected by a 14-member committee formed nearly a month ago specifically for that purpose.

Mojaddedi denied reports by the mujahidin's mouthpiece, AL-BANYAN NEWS AGENCY, that the council members have been named, emphasizing that the eight Iran-based parties have refused to join the new council, despite the intensive talks with them in both Tehran and Peshawar. Mojaddedi attributed the refusal to those parties' insistence on their being allocated eight ministerial positions in the mujahidin government.

Mojaddedi also denied the agency's report that the new council will supervise the transitional government and that it will have the decisive say. He said that the supreme authority in Muslim Afghanistan is the head of state. He pointed out that the Muslim Afghan state rests on three pillars: the supreme court, the government, and the shura council. He said that these three institutions are accountable to the head of state.

Mojaddedi denied that the new shura council's role could be an alternative to the shura's leadership. In his interview with 'UKAZ he confirmed that four ministries have moved into the liberated territory, adding that the other ministries will move into Afghan territory within just 2 weeks.

The Afghan mujahidin's mouthpiece, AL-BANYAN NEWS AGENCY, yesterday reported that that council would represent all tendencies and influential parties in Afghanistan.

Najibullah Speaks to Teachers on War Situation

LD2605123789 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 24 May 89

[Speech by President Najibullah to a group of teachers marking Teachers' Day on 24 May in Kabul—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed teachers and staff of education and training, I feel pleased to have found the opportunity to see you. The [words indistinct] and moral position of teachers and educators is very dear in every society. Meeting with those who day and night shed light in the hearts of the children of their homeland naturally creates such a feeling of happiness. Allow me to present to you, on behalf of the leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan, and through you to all esteemed teachers and every (?youth) of the country who, on this auspicious occasion, are courageously engaged in training the children of our beloved Afghanistan, wishes for your further success and good health.

As a matter of fact, every day is teachers' day. When a person accomplishes a good deed and renders service to society, the features of a teacher and educator come to mind. In our country from ancient times, respecting one's teacher has been (?on the same level) as respecting one's mother and father, and those who pray before almighty God pray for their parents and teachers. It should be so, because teachers maintain through education and training the development of the soul and the great human [word indistinct]. They teach the juveniles and youths of the country about the great energy they possess and to how they should use it to serve society and the homeland. In this way, teachers and educators develop the human soul. [passage indistinct]

Dear friends, our society traditionally pays great respect to teachers and educators. During the last 10 years, despite the resistance of darkness against light, the Republic of Afghanistan has paid consistent attention to the growth of balanced education free of prejudice and inclinations. The war has, unfortunately, affected all spheres of our life. Imagine a country in dire need of the development of literacy and education in which some 10,000 schools are destroyed, their furniture and equipment set on fire, millions of children are (?deprived) of education, and where around 2,000 patriotic teachers have been martyred. All these material and human losses were brought about by war.

As concerns the political and military situation in the country, I believe you, esteemed teachers, are well aware of how we have declared the national reconciliation policy for the past 2 and ½ years. The foreign nature of this policy, (?the conclusion of the Geneva Accords), which we have sincerely implemented, and the withdrawal of the Soviet forces to their country is well known to you, as is the independent defense of the homeland and the repeated peaceful proposals of the Afghan Government to the opposition inside the country and the position of the opposition to our proposals.

On the eve of the withdrawal of the Soviet units, we were sufficiently warned that we would face sabotage, subversion, and explosions in our cities and provinces. Furthermore, the question of encroachment on our territory by Pakistan and the question of the freedom, independence, and territorial integrity of the country compelled us to declare the state of emergency. As experience showed, all our forecasts were correct.

At this moment, the situation remains complicated. To extend the state of emergency we were bound, in accordance with the articles of the Constitution, to convene the Loya Jirgah. The Loya Jirgah was convened and its meeting successfully concluded. It approved the continuation of the national reconciliation policy, the strengthening of the defense forces, and the continuation of Afghanistan's domestic and foreign poicies under the present conditions. I believe, my esteemed friends, that teachers are aware of the role of Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the United States in financing and instigating direct aggression against the border provinces, in particular against Jalalabad and Khowst. For 1 week now intensified attacks have been directed against Khowst. [Words indistinct] was very severe and serious. Our forces, which are [words indistinct] and defending themselves courageously.

Fortunately, we secured the support of the Loya Jirgah representatives. The Loya Jirgah made wise and timely decisions and resolutions. We hope that in pursuing the realization of these decisions, we will improve and [words indistinct] the situation.

Esteemed teachers, such a situation allows us to partially implement the Afghan Government's plans and to allocate further energy to defend the homeland and the independence and territorial integrity of Afghanistan. We have still many difficulties in the system of education and training in Afghanistan. I am aware that the esteemed teachers are living in very hard conditions. Because of housing problems, the high prices of primary goods, and other social problems, the teachers take on extra work and in this way eliminate their economic problems to a certain extent. You, esteemed teachers, also realize the government's problems. The strengthening of the armed forces and the additional allocation of the budget for this has been imposed on us by the opposition. We have to spend less for bread and more to maintain the defense of our lives and the homeland. Although these hard and difficult days are painful, we believe that with farsightedness you will tolerate them with honor, to defend the homeland and to end the war and support important national interests.

We are completely confident that you not only recognize the government's policy of peace but are also assisting the Afghan Government in this. The steps taken by the Ministry of Education and Training toward improving the work conditions and the lives of teachers, including regional pay, the reduction of teaching responsibilities in accordance with the number of years in service, and a number of other measures, are steps which could be considered hopeful to a certain extent. As professional leaders of the country's children, you have and are playing your role in the defense of peace, life, and light. If peace is maintained and the war of fratricide is ended, the Afghan Government's social programs will guarantee and maintain a reliable future for all generations of our proud country. To achieve peace, we need great struggle and efforts. We request you, esteemed teachers, to develop the spirit of patriotism and service to the society, more than ever before, in our students. Train them with the spirit of sincere service for the homeland and the people. Train the children of today's homeland, who are the future leaders of the country, with the profound characteristics of patrotism and love for the people. I wish greater success for everyone of you in the realization of our human and noble aspirations. Success comes from God. [applause]

'Extremists' Fire Missiles on Kabul City

LD0606195289 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The criminal extremists protected by Pakistan attacked Kabul city again today by firing three surface-to-surface missiles.

BAKHTAR's military section reported that these rockets, fired by professional criminals, hit nonresidential regions in the Shohaday-e Salehin area at the foot of Sher Dawaza mountain, and also a workers' town. Fortunately, there was no loss of life or material damage.

30 Killed in Clash Between 'Extremist' Groups

LD0706093389 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0509 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 6, BAKHTAR—Serious clashes have occurred among the extremist armed groups of the Gulbuddin, Rabbani, Sayyaf and Muhammadi in various parts of the country recently, our military correspondents reported.

The clashes resulted to the death of 30 extremists including Gholam Sakhi, Sayyed Mohammad and Mohammad Naim, three ringleaders of the Gulbuddin group. Another 16 persons were wounded.

The clashes are fiercely continuing in the suburbs of Laghman, Parvan, Faryab and Herat Provinces.

Deputy Minister Decorates Nangarhar Troops

LD0306061989 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0436 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] Kabul, June 2, BAKHTAR—Greetings and good wishes of Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan were conveyed today by M. Nabi 'Azimi, first deputy minister of defence to the soldiers and officers of the detachments of Nangarhar forces which are in the front line of the eastern front, reports our military correspondent.

The first deputy minister of defence accompanied by commander of Nangarhar forces appreciated the high combat morale of the soldiers and officers who have shown merits in defence of the independence and territorial intergrity against the aggression of the Pakistani militarists and Saudi Arabian Wahhabis.

M. Nabi 'Azimi awarded orders and medals of the Republic of Afghanistan as well as cards of the extraordinary promotions to some officers and soldiers of Nangarhar forces as well.

Commander of Nangarhar Province, on behalf of the others promised to the first deputy minister of defence that they would bravely struggle against the aggression of Pakistani militarists and defend the independence of the country like their ancestors.

'Extremists' Defeat at Jalalabad Examined

LD0506062189 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0418 GMT 5 Jun 89

["Commentary on Extremists Defeat in Jalalabad"—BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, June 4, BAKHTAR—Ringleaders of the extremist groups stationed in Pakistan prior to their offensive on Jalalabad, three months ago, were proudly alleging that they will capture that city within 72 hours.

These forecasts of the said extremist ringleaders and Western mass media did not come true.

Contingents and detachments of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan [RA] did not only retained their positions against the enemies in Jalalabad and its outskirts during this period, but, they in their counter attacks captured strongholds of the enemy in different directions in that city as well.

The extremists and their Wahhabi [Saudi] and Pakistani supporters who can not resist Armed Forces of the RA now complain of their shortage of arms and ammunition during the days of war.

In order to camouflage their repeated defeats in the wars fought in Jalalabad the extremists are now attempting in vain to mend their set backs in the said war.

It is amazing that the Western mass media which on the start of wars in Jalalabad were talking of the extremists victories now speak of the extremists defeat in that city.

India

Opposition Condemns IPKF Presence in Sri Lanka

BK0706081489 Hong Kong AFP in English
0729 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Excerpt] New Delhi, June 7 (AFP)—India's main opposition alliance has slammed Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government for committing the army to a "costly misadventure" in Sri Lanka and called for an immediate troop withdrawal.

The criticism was voiced in a resolution adopted by the four-party National Front at a meeting here Tuesday, a spokesman for the alliance said Wednesday.

He said the resolution called for an immediate withdrawal of the estimated 45,000-strong Indian Peacekeeping Force (IPKF) fighting Tamil separatist guerrillas in Sri Lanka.

Any delay in pulling out would "endanger the honour and self-respect of our Army and the nation as a whole," the resolution warned.

"The ill-advised policies of the prime minister have committed our brave and patriotic Army to an unpleasant task that has not only harmed the Sri Lankan Tamils, but also made our Army suffer immense losses," it said.

The resolution said Mr. Gandhi owed India an explanation for the "costly misadventure" he had sent the Army on by signing a 1987 peace pact with Sri Lanka aimed at crushing Tamil separatism with New Delhi's military muscle.

It said the "total failure" of the government's Sri Lanka policy was exemplified by President Ranasinghe Premadasa's declaration that he wanted the IPKF off the island when the pact marks its second anniversary.

The National Front spokesman said the resolution was consistent with the alliance's view that India should not have become a party to the Sri Lanka conflict. [passage omitted]

Sri Lankan Official Delivers Message to Gandhi

BK0406003089 Hong Kong AFP in English
1752 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Excerpt] New Delhi, June 3 (AFP)—Sri Lankan Foreign Secretary Bernard Tilakaratne arrived here from Colombo late Saturday [3 June] with a special message for Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, officials here said.

Mr. Tilakaratne was carrying a message from Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa for the Indian premier, the officials said but gave no details. [passage omitted]

Talks on Withdrawal Affirmed

BK0606150589 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1430 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] India and Sri Lanka have agreed to continue consultations to create conditions as envisaged in the India-Sri Lanka agreement to facilitate the withdrawal of the Peacekeeping Force [PKF]. This was stated by an official spokesman in New Delhi today.

He was briefing newsmen on the visit of the foreign secretary of Sri Lanka, Mr Bernard Tilakaratna, as a special envoy of President Premadasa. Mr Tilakaratna, who arrived in New Delhi on Saturday night [3 June], is scheduled to leave for Colombo this evening or tomorrow morning. During his stay, the Sri Lankan foreign secretary called on the prime minister and the external affairs minister. He handed over a message from Mr Premadasa to Mr Rajiv Gandhi on the question of withdrawal of the PKF.

The spokesman said India has reiterated its desire to withdraw the PKF at an early date. Replying to a question, the spokesman said the talks covered the withdrawal of the PKF and the current situation in the island.

Tamil Nadu Minister Criticizes Sri Lanka Policy

BK0406070689 Hong Kong AFP in English
0617 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Excerpts] New Delhi, June 4 (AFP)—The chief minister of India's southern Tamil Nadu State has criticised New Delhi's Sri Lanka policy and expressed the hope that peace talks between Colombo and Tamil separatists succeed.

Sri Lanka's decision to talk directly to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) "is the end result of New Delhi's approach to the ethnic issue" in the island, Muthuvel Karunanidhi was quoted as saying in newspapers Sunday [4 June].

Mr. Karunanidhi, who became chief minister in January, did not elaborate, but said the federal Indian Government had let slip "for some unknown reason" chances to talk to the LTTE, Sri Lanka's most powerful Tamil rebel group. [passage omitted]

Mr. Karunanidhi, who in the past has supported the Tamil militants' struggle for a homeland called Eelam, said he had repeatedly stressed to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi the need for a negotiated settlement in Sri Lanka.

Mr. Gandhi favoured the suggestion, THE TIMES OF INDIA and other newspapers quoted Mr. Karunanidhi as saying Saturday in the Tamil Nadu capital Madras at a function held to mark his 66th birthday.

"But then I did not hear anything from the prime minister's office about the steps taken regarding the issue," he added.

Mr. Karunanidhi, who heads Tamil Nadu's ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) party, said he hoped peace talks begun in April between the LTTE and the Sri Lankan Government would yield positive results.

Sri Lankan Tamil guerrillas used Tamil Nadu, which is divided from Sri Lanka by a narrow strip of sea known as the Palk Strait, for their separatist war until New Delhi and Colombo signed the 1987 accord.

THE TIMES and INDIAN EXPRESS newspapers said Mr. Karunanidhi did not give his views about Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa's demand Thursday that India pull back its troops from the island by July 29. [passage omitted]

But another leading Tamil Nadu politician, who played a major role in the drafting of the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement, said he was not optimistic about the peace talks, the first round of which ended last month.

The INDIAN EXPRESS quoted S. Ramachandran as saying that he held this opinion because of Mr. Premadasa's postures and the "history of the government (of Sri Lanka) reneging on various agreements." He did not elaborate.

Mr. Ramachandran, who was once close to the LTTE, also said in Madras Saturday that Mr. Gandhi "should not wash hands of the Sri Lankan Tamils issue, but act in time to save the Tamils from another bout of ethnic riots."

The EXPRESS quoted him as saying that a "premature withdrawal" of Indian troops from Sri Lanka "will result in loss of goodwill for the centre among the people of Tamil Nadu."

National Front Urges Withdrawal From Sri Lanka

BK0706034689 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The National Front [an alliance of opposition political parties] presidium at its meeting in New Delhi yesterday expressed the view that the Peacekeeping Force [PKF] should be immediately withdrawn from Sri Lanka. It said this should be done without loss of honor and dignity. The front convener, Mr V.P.Singh [former finance minister], told newsmen that the meeting discussed several topics, including the situation in China. He alleged that the electronic media is being misused.

Meanwhile, a large number of people in Jaffna have signed a petition against the Sri Lankan president's views on the withdrawal of the PKF by the end of next month.

The Northeastern Provincial Council in the island has urged President Premadasa to unconditionally take back his statement on the withdrawal of the PKF.

Nepal Criticized for Internationalizing Issue

BK0706081389 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES
in English 30 May 89 p 11

[Editorial: "Blinkered View"]

[Text] It does not speak highly of Nepal's decision makers that they should lead Kathmandu along an adventurous course without proper homework about its consequences. Depending too heavily on natural human sympathies for the underdog, Nepal went about recklessly accusing India of forcing an economic blockade when no international law supported the reality on the ground, and whined at every multi-nation forum while telling India that it does not mean to internationalise a bilateral issue. Had India been in the wrong under international law that applies to a land-locked country, Kathmandu by now could have moved the World Court and secured redress. The fact is India has not violated international laws or conventions, but what it has perhaps done is deny Nepal a continuation of concessions that are extended only under a relationship of mutual trust. Nepal is guilty of breaking that trust, but it is unable to admit it for doing so might neutralise whatever international support it has been able to muster. The world community can only expect India to be correct and proper with Nepal, but it cannot compel New Delhi to love an entity merely because it is weaker and lavish on it favours which it does not do on others. Nepal is just trying to extract concessions and, by the very nature of it, such an endeavour is doomed to fail.

Kathmandu's latest move in suggesting talks is unlikely to break the ice because it still is not frank enough to propose exactly how it wishes its relationship with India restructured. It wants trade in hard currency and on a most favoured nation basis. To the extent Nepal perceives such a trade regime would reduce its dependence on India, it is welcome to make its decision. But such trade would be impossible under the open border system that operates along the 1700-kilometre Indo-Nepal frontier. Even border trade, which Nepal wants should continue along the existing pattern, must be regulated stringently. There cannot be a question of permitting unhindered smuggling of fancy foreign goods from Nepal into Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Sikkim to the detriment of Indian economy. By suggesting such a trade pattern, Kathmandu is also implying a restructuring of the Indo-Nepal relationship taking in its sweep the security relationship of the two countries. All that it is trying to achieve could have been done without embittering the age-old ties with India. The Nepal Government is merely tinkering with the problem, by blaming India and jailing Nepalese journalists because they do not toe the official line curbing human rights. It is entirely Nepal's sovereign business to decide on its policies; it can continue to wear blinders. But its international relationship must be based on reciprocity. If it chooses to spurn "special relationship" with India, it cannot complain that New Delhi is taking a legal view of the international statute that regulates its ties with Kathmandu.

Outcome of Talks With Pakistan Official Reviewed

BK2505113389 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 25 May 89

[Samuel Ved commentary]

[Text] The talks between the home secretaries of India and Pakistan held in Islamabad from May 21-24 have yielded results which should go a long way in removing some causes of irritation in the two countries' bilateral relations. The two main issues on which Indian Home Secretary J.A. Kalyanakrishnan and his Pakistani counterpart S.K. Mahmud concentrated were: first, mutual complaints of interference in each other's internal affairs, and second, transborder crimes like illegal border crossing, arms smuggling and drug trafficking.

The two sides agreed that the director general of Pakistan Rangers and the inspectors general of BSF [Border Security Force] of Punjab and Rajasthan shall biennially review the implementation of the agreed measures of cooperation with special focus on the efficacy in regard to combatting transborder crimes in addition to the work relating to the maintenance of boundary pillars.

They also agreed that the border security forces shall undertake simultaneous coordinated patrolling along the India-Pakistan border and the patrols shall be briefed and rebriefed jointly. The officials concerned from the two border security forces will meet in June 1989 to finalize the modalities and implementation of this agreement.

The two countries resolved to wage a total war on drug trafficking and smuggling.

Talking about mutual charges of interference in each other's domestic affairs, it can be said that India has followed a conscious policy of not to weaken Pakistan. After the 1971 war, Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi said a strong Pakistan was in the interest of India and it was in pursuit of this policy that she signed the Simla Accord to help Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto to effect political stability in Pakistan. It is therefore wrong to allege that India is trying to destabilize Sind. The people of Pakistan know very well that the present crisis in Sind is the gift of the military rule. It was in 1986 that Pakistani rulers began accusing India of interference in Sind. It was a crude attempt to provide a cover-up to their backing to the trouble in Punjab.

At the first home secretary-level talks in Islamabad in December 1986, India raised the question of transborder crime and the Pakistani help to Punjab's misguided youths in India. At the second round in New Delhi in May 1988, the Indian side confronted the Pakistani home secretary with incontrovertible evidence of Pakistan's involvement in Punjab. India sternly told Pakistani rulers that it would not allow them to play their dirty game in Punjab. Pakistan then gave an assurance that it would not meddle in Punjab. But it did not keep its word.

Among the issues Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Ms Bhutto discussed during the time of the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] summit in Islamabad at December end [as heard] last year was Pakistan's encouragement to terrorism in Punjab. It is known that Ms Bhutto was always against General Ziaul Haq's attempt to play the Sikh card. It may, therefore, now be hoped that Pakistan will desist from interference in Punjab.

The second important question that the two home secretaries discussed in Islamabad related to arms smuggling and drug trafficking. The thriving illegal arms business—a fallout of Pakistani military government's Afghan policy—has played havoc within Pakistan. These arms have also flowed to India, causing problems here. Thus, if the two countries can stop this trade, they will only be helping themselves. Same goes with the drug menace—another fallout of the Pakistani military's Afghan policy. Pakistan has suffered more because of this menace. In 1978, the number of drug addicts was very negligible. Today, it is estimated that of the 100 million population of Pakistan, about 1 million are given to drugs. The two countries now should have no hesitation in correcting the past mistakes and allow this agreement to be implemented.

Spokesman Says Nationals in Beijing Safe

BK0606162689 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] An official spokesman said in New Delhi this evening that all the members of the Indian community, including students, in Beijing were safe. He said, in fact, some of the students are staying in the premises of the Indian Embassy. The spokesman said the situation in the Chinese capital was changing at a fast pace, and if the situation warranted, family members of the staff of the Indian Embassy and nondiplomatic personnel would be evacuated. The spokesman said the Indian Embassy in Beijing was in constant touch with the government and we are getting regular reports from them.

Finance Minister Terms U.S. Trade Action Unjust

BK0606094489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The finance minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, has described the U.S. action against India under the Omnibus Trade Act as unjust and unfair. Speaking at a seminar in Geneva, he said issues which are currently being negotiated in multilateral fora cannot and should not be solved through unilateral action. Such unilateralism will sound the death knell of the multilateral system which the international community had worked hard to build. The seminar was organized by the World Economic Forum to promote business with India.

Mr Chavan asserted that India will not compromise its autonomy of decision [making], stating that no outside power can dictate to us the nature, the pace, or the degree of change under the pretext of liberalizing the world market situation. Mr Chavan said that India has liberalized its policy and institutional management to meet the changing requirements of the national economy to serve the country better.

Referring to foreign investments in India, Mr Chavan said that the country's approach is to look for serious investors who have a long-term prospective and those who believe in fair and equitable partnership. Mr Chavan assured the participants that they could look forward to profitable investments while supporting India in its economic development.

CPI-M Accuses U.S. of Trying To 'Deflect' Nation

BK3105032889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 May 89

[Text] The CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] has said that the United States is trying to deflect India from the path of self-reliance in her security needs. The party has also urged the central government to take a firm stand in respect of the discriminatory U.S. trade laws. The CPI-M leader, Mr E.M.S. Namboordripad, briefed newsmen in New Delhi on the deliberations of the Politburo.

The party has also condemned the stand of the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], and the RSS [Rashtriya Swayam Sevak] that they will not accept a judicial verdict on the Ramjanmabhumi Babri Masjid [a disputed shrine between the Hindus and the Muslims] issue, if it went against their demand. The CPI-M has urged the government to fix a date for the meeting of the National Integration Council.

Paper Queries Pepsico Role in U.S. Trade Issue

BK2905040489 Delhi PATRIOT in English 11 May 89 p 4

[Editorial: "Pepsico: Honest Broker"]

[Text] It is bad enough that India should find itself under tremendous US pressure to change its stand on trade related intellectual property rights. What makes the situation worse and adds an ominous note is the unsolicited intervention by a US multinational, ostensibly on behalf of India, to sort out a brewing controversy. In a bid to retain its position as world economic leaders, which is under threat from the Japanese and to some extent the West Germans, the US has been trying to shift the basis of its economic domination from a producer of goods to a leader in technology. Therefore, the pressure on countries such as Brazil and India to give up their resistance to the inclusion of trade related intellectual rights within the GATT framework. The recent visit of India by a US delegation ton discuss issues that arise in the wake of the US Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988, whereby the US can take unilateral action against countries that discourage US exports and investments, is part of this pressure. The attempt to plead with the US on behalf of India by the chief of the US multinational, Pepsico, Mr Don Kendal, however adds an unsavoury note. It is a move of which India has reason to be suspicious. Mr Kendal is an active leader of the very US Chamber of Commerce that instigated the US Trade representative to probe into what it called 'unfair trade' on the part of India. It is ironical that Mr Kendal should now step forward to plead for an exemption of India from the list of countries indulging in the so called anti-US trade activities. Mr Kendal was the Pepsico chief when Pepsico played an active part in toppling the Allende government in Chile. Having let Pepsico in, the Indian Government needs to see that a private corporation is not elevated to the position where it begins to mediate between two sovereign nations.

Trade With USSR Likely To Increase by 25 Percent

BK0606050889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The trade between India and the Soviet Union is likely to increase by over 25 percent this year. Measures to further increase trade relations were discussed at a meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on Trade, which concluded in Moscow recently. Export contracts worth more than 3,000 crores have already been signed with the Soviet Union for the year. There has been a major increase in exports from India to the Soviet Union, particularly of items like instant coffee, packed tea, knitwear, hosiery, textile machinery, and medical equipment.

Over 50,000 Bangladeshi Refugees in Tripura Camps

BK0406034289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] The recent influx of tribal refugees of Bangladesh from across the border into Tripura is continuing unabated. Quoting police sources, our Agartala correspondent reports that the total number of such Bangladeshi refugees staying in 5 different camps in the state has crossed 50,000.

Minister on Situation in Kashmir, Punjab

BK0606152789 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The minister of state for home, Mr Chidambaram, has said that though the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is under control, it requires constant vigil against infiltrators from across the border. He was having an informal chat with newsmen in New Delhi today. The minister said 75 infiltrators were arrested during the last 6 weeks when special steps were initiated to control the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. Efforts are now concentrated on foiling any further infiltration. The central government rendered considerable help and assistance to the state. The state police arrested 17 wanted persons and 169 subversive and antinational elements during the period. The government is also monitoring the implementation of the central package for economic development of the state. He said a recruitment drive is being organized in Kashmir Valley by BSF and CRPF [Border Security Force and Central Reserve Police Force].

On Punjab, Mr Chidambaram said the cabinet subcommittee is likely to have another round of talks with the opposition after formulating its views on the discussions held earlier in Chandigarh. He said the stumbling block is the Akali Dal, which refused to join the talks.

About terrorist infiltration in the state, the minister said this occurs at points where there is no fencing and also via Ganganagar and Jammu and Kashmir.

Meanwhile, in Punjab, five persons were killed and two seriously injured in two incidents of terrorist activity this afternoon. In Faridkot District, terrorists opened fire at a three-wheeler, killing three occupants near village Dhodian Kher. The killed have been identified as a retired police assistant subinspector, a head constable, and their relation.

In Amritsar District, some terrorists hijacked a private passenger bus near village Talwandi Ghuman and took it to a link road. The bus was on its way from Amritsar to Pathankot. After going some distance, the terrorists asked about 10 passengers to alight and opened fire on them. Two of them were killed, while another two were seriously injured. Security forces immediately rushed to the spot and have since launched a massive manhunt for the culprits.

3 'Terrorists' Killed, 10 Arrested in Punjab

BK0306124289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Text] In Punjab, three terrorists have been killed in separate incidents in Amritsar and Jullundhur Districts since yesterday. The security forces have arrested 10 terrorists during raids in Gurdaspur and Kapurthala Districts. Arms and ammunition, including high explosives bombs, were recovered from their possession.

Hard-Core 'Terrorist' Killed by Police in Punjab

BK0606044789 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] In Punjab, a hard-core terrorist, Sukhvinder Singh alias Toti, was killed in an encounter with the security forces near Sabrama village in Gurdaspur District late last night. According to an official spokesman, a Chinese assault rifle and more than 100 cartridges were recovered from his possession. His two other accomplishes, however, managed to escape. Toti, who was involved in a number of terrorist crimes, carried a reward of 30,000 rupees on his head.

In Amritsar District, two terrorists fired at some CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] jawans [soldiers] standing in a shop in Raya town last evening. The jawans returned the fire, and in the crossfire, two persons from among the public were killed and four injured. The terrorists managed to escape.

Indira Gandhi Murder Suspect Claims 'Framed'

BK0306133889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1324 GMT 3 Jun 89

[Excerpt] New Delhi, June 3 (AFP)—A Sikh former police officer charged with conspiring to kill the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi told a court here Saturday that he had been framed for criticizing the government.

Simranjit Singh Mann, making his first court appearance, testified in a makeshift courtroom in New Delhi's maximum-security Tihar Jail.

He said that he was being persecuted for criticising New Delhi's manner of dealing with Sikh militancy.

Mr. Mann denied before City Judge J.M. Malik that he had been involved in a conspiracy that resulted in Mrs. Gandhi's assassination on October 31, 1984 by two Sikh bodyguards.

He said that the charges brought by the government amounted to a "frame-up."

Mr. Mann, along with three other Sikhs also appearing in court, was charged on April 7 with involvement in the assassination, as well as with trying to destabilise India and waging war against the nation.

If found guilty, the four men face a possible death sentence. A suspected Sikh militant, Atinder Pal Singh, and two Bombay college teachers, Jagmohan Singh and Dilip Singh, appeared in court last month when they were remanded into custody.

Mr. Mann wore a blue turban and almond-coloured shirt and pyjamas during his court appearance. He was brought here Friday from the eastern Indian city of Bhagalpur, where he had been held for about four-and-a-half years.

Investigators produced him before Judge Malik, along with the three others, to commit them to trial. The judge remanded them to judicial custody and fixed the next committal hearing for June 9.

Mr. Mann, who is president of a militant faction of a Sikh political party, Unified Akali Dal, alleged that he had been regularly tortured during his detention.

He said his teeth were misshapen because of beatings by investigators, who also pulled hair out of his beard, he said. In Tihar Jail, he said he had been put in a cell without any ventilation. [passage omitted]

Iran

More Than 10,000 Injured in Funeral Crush

LD0706105789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] According to reports received, during the last few days thousands of mourners for Imam Khomeyni have been injured due to the crowd stampede during farewell and funeral procession ceremonies for the great leader of the Islamic revolution.

Our correspondent in contact with an official from the medical department of the headquarters in charge of mourning ceremonies for Imam Khomeyni received the news and announced that, unfortunately, despite all measures taken, due to the overflow of emotions and feelings of people and their grief, the security forces and stewards at the ceremonies to bid the imam farewell said that 10,879 people were injured and received instant medical attention. Moreover, 438 people were taken to hospitals because of injury and acute weakness. A few individuals were martyred.

Montazeri Pays Tribute to Khomeyni

LD0706082189 Tehran IRNA in English 0725 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 7, IRNA—Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri attended Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery early this morning and paid tribute to the deceased leader of the Islamic revolution Imam Khomeyni.

Commemoration Service Held for Khomeyni

LD0706093189 Tehran IRNA in English 0845 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 7, IRNA—A massive commemoration ceremony was held at Tehran University campus here today called by the leader of the Islamic Republic President 'Ali Khamene'i on the occasion of Imam Khomeyni's passing away.

Present in the ceremony were President 'Ali Khamene'i, members of the Experts Assembly, the imam's son Ahmad, scholars of Qom Theological Center and Council of Guardians as well as Chief Justice Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi, members of the High Judicial Council, members of Imam's Bureau, ministers, ranking commanders of the Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corp (IRGC), Majlis deputies as well as civilian and military officials.

A great number of people from various cities and villages of the country poured into the capital to bid farewell to their leader, also participated in today's ceremony.

Mourning groups marching towards Tehran University campus, vowed to continue Imam Khomeyni's path.

A group of foreign correspondents, photographers and film makers covered the ceremony participated by hundreds of thousands of people.

At the end of the mourning ceremony, the participants voiced support for President Khamene'i. "Obdience to Khamene'i is obedience to imam of ummah" and "Ruhollah's brother became Hizbollah's leader," they chanted.

Khamene'i Holds Memorial Ceremony 7 Jun

LD0606221189 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] On the heart-wrenching occasion of the passing away of the great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a memorial ceremony will be held tomorrow by Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the

Islamic Republic of Iran at Tehran University, the location of Friday prayers. The following is the text of Ayatollah Khamene'i's communique:

In his exalted name, we come from God and return to him. On the occasion of the great and unforgettable calamity of the passing away of the great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the idol, guide, and beloved of the Iranian nation, his holiness Imam Khomeyni—may his noble soul be sacred—a memorial ceremony will be held in Tehran Univesity, the location of Friday prayers service from 0800 to 1100 tomorrow.

With a heart full of sadness and sorrow, I offer condolences to the imam of the ages—may my soul be sacrificed to him—and I will be mourning in this memorial.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i

Musavi, Cabinet Swear Allegiance to Khamene'i

LD0606195789 Tehran IRNA in English 1810 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 6 IRNA—In a meeting with the newly-elected leader of the Islamic Republic Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i Tuesday, Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi and his cabinet ministers reaffirmed allegiance to him.

"The government will strongly follow the leadership and tread the path of leadership... as a religious duty," Musavi stressed.

The premier, saying his government will act within the framework of the Shari'ah (Islamic law) and the Constitution, noted that all cabinet ministers wished to serve as efficient soldiers for Islam.

In response, Khamene'i expressed hope that he could very well carry out the task of leadership entrusted to him, by relying on God the almighty and with the help of the people.

He also promised to follow the ideals of the late founder of the Islamic Revolution including the neither-East-nor-West policy, making the country self-sufficient, supporting the oppressed and defending Muslims including the Palestinian nation.

President Khamene'i succeeded Imam Khomeyni a day after the imam's decease on Saturday night. He was elected the leader of the Islamic Republic by the Assembly of Experts.

Khamene'i said that with the passing away of Imam Khomeyni, the Iranian nation had lost its father.

IRGC Commander Pledges Allegiance to Khamene'i

LD0706111389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 07 Jun 89

[Text] Mr. Mohsen Reza'i, chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], in a message addressed to Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, offered condolences on the demise of the great leader of the Islamic revolution and emphasized that all the guards and mobilized units will follow the orders of the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces. He declared: The timely step taken by the honored assembly of experts in the worthy election of you, excellency, who was an old and faithful companion of His Excellency, Imam Khomeyni, and trained in his theoretical and practical ideology, calmed the hearts of the Muslim ummah and rendered despondent the sworn enemies of Islam.

I declare once again that all the self-sacrificing guards and mobilized units, by declaring their readiness to follow the orders of your excellency as their supreme jurisconsult [vali-ye faqih] and the esteemed commander in chief of the Armed Forces will not refrain from any effort and will remove any kind of obstacles, in all seriousness, from the path.

Majlis Deputies Vow Allegiance to Khamene'i

LD0606135789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The Majlis deputies renewed their allegiance to Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a letter addressed to him. The text of the letter is as follows:

In the name of God, the Almighty. To the blessed office of His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the great leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We are from God, and to him we return. We express our condolences for the demise of such a great and dear character, the sad deprivation of whose soul has not yet been believed by the eye and the heart. A character whom in the century of the bankruptcy of humanitarianism, spoke about true Muslim beings and pure Mohammedan Islam—may God's blessing be upon him and his kin. A character who gave new life to jihad and martyrodom, to life and movement in accordance with the tenets tought in the seminaries. A character who revived the call of Takbir [God is great] and Tawhid [the oneness of God in individuals. A character who spoke about the poor and the deprived, and gave new life to the Islamic ummah. May God diminish the heavy grief of the separation of the great leader of the Islamic Revolution, which is being borne by Your Excellency, and the honorable offspring of the household of his eminence, as well as the Islamic ummah.

Thus, we express gratitude and indebtedness to the [Assembly of] Experts of the Islamic ummah who, in the shortest possible time, with total sincerity, and with a unity and solidarity that has roots in the life-giving school of Islam, designated the leadership in a resolute vote and selected Your Excellency, whose far-reaching and lucid educational and practical experience is endorsed by everyone, and who has years of political and crusading experience, as the leader of the Islamic ummah.

We, the martyr-nurturing nation's representatives in the Majlis, follow the guidelines of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni's guidelines, which inspired the head of the Assembly of Experts. We renew our allegiance with Your Excellency, noting that according to his eminence the imam, you are an Islamic mojtahed [theologian]. We obey your commands as the guardian in charge of the Muslims, and beseech Your Excellency—who is an upright follower and sincere and faithful pupil of that lofty leader whom we have lost—not to stop short of any efforts to continue the path of his highness. May God grant you success and victory, in such an endevor and such a great responsibility.

KEYHAN Lauds Choice of Khamene'i as Leader

LD0606173289 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 6, IRNA—The speed with which the new leader was elected, in less than a day after the passing away of the leader of the Islamic Revolution and founder of the Islamic republic, has astounded the world and especially political analysts and the media, the Persian daily KEYHAN said today.

The development demonstrated to them that what happens in Islamic Iran has a meaning different from their own interpretations, it said. The election of President 'Ali Khamene'i as leader with an overwhelming vote by the Experts Assembly, and public as well as government support for him caused the enemies to gape in disbelief, it added.

The people, the commentary said, are pleased with Khamene'i's election for the position because of his special qualifications, which it summed up as folows:
1. His knowledge of fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence)—in the words of Imam Khomeyni as quoted by his son Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad.
2. His commitment to religion in every apsect and to the precepts of Islam.
3. His records of struggle which has long since been in line with Imam Khomeyni's struggle.
4. His spotless reputation with leading religious sources and jurisprudents and with all sectors of the masses.
5. His unique statesmanship coupled with insight and political acumen, on which he has ably relied during the eight years of his presidency.

The paper said with respect to the brilliant personality traits in the person of the new leader and to people's loyalty and devotion to him, there is hope to believe that it is a duty for all of us to be obedient to Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i as much as were to the imam.

KEYHAN reminded that without the least hesitation every person must fight against any form of insinuation aimed at dividing the masses or ruining their confidence in the system.

"We should all remember," said the commentary, "that the dawn of history is near at hand: the dawn of the oppressed masses, the dawn of awakening masses, and the dawn of the sovereignty of the righteous people, and... the dawn of the advent of Imam Mahdi (PBUH) [peace be upon him], the last saviour of mankind with a divine order on the earth."

Tehran TV Carries Meshkini Interview

NC0606071789 Tehran Television Service in Persian 0456 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Interview with Ayatollah 'Ali Akbar Meshkini, member of the Assembly of Experts on 6 June at the Tehran prayer grounds by an unidentified correspondent from the Voice and Vision of Islamic Republic—recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Salutations and condolences. I wished to ask you about anything you have to say to our Islam-loving people.

[Meshkini] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I wish to say on behalf of the entire clergy that this is a major calamity for all the Muslims of the world, all the oppressed of the world, especially the noble Iranian nation, the bereaved nation. I hope God Almighty gives them success so that we may be able to implement the ideals of our imam of the nation, our rightfully chosen imam, with precision and to gladden his auspicious heart. May God grant all patience and forbearance.

[Correspondent] I know that in these sensitive moments you are overwhelmed by sorrow at this major calamity. I wish to ask you about the reaction of the Western countries to the demise of the imam.

[Meshkini] They may think that with the demise of the imam they may be able to achieve some of their low, filthy, colonialist objectives but praise be to God, the feelings of the imam are still in the ummah. The imam's objectives live on, and God willing, until the hidden imam appears, they will continue eternally and the sinister avarice of the West will be cut off from Iran.

[Correspondent] God willing. I pray for the long life of all of you.

Khamene'i To Follow 'Precisely' Imam's Line

LD0606122289 Tehran IRNA in English 1125 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 6, IRNA—Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, who is here to attend the funeral ceremony of the leader of the Islamic revolution, met and condoled President 'Ali Khamene'i last night.

Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati were also present at the meeting with the Syrian Premier who is accompanied by his foreign minister Faruq al-Shar'.

Al-Zu'bi, on behalf of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian people, condoled the Iranian head of state and the people.

Ayatollah Khamene'i has been elected the new leader of the Islamic Republic by the Assembly of Experts.

Khamene'i, thanking the Syrian premier said that as leader of the Islamic Republic and a long-time student of the late Imam Khomeyni he would carry on the affairs of the Islamic state precisely along the same line instituted by the imam.

"One common outlook between the Islamic Republic and Syria is their uncompromising struggle against the Zionist regime," he added.

Later the Syrian prime minister signed a commemorative book on the occasion.

Meanwhile, Lebanon's interior minister 'Abdallah al-Rasi who is also here for the imam's funeral offered his condolences to Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati last night.

He also condoled the Iranian minister and the nation on behalf of former president of Lebanon Sulayman Franjiyah.

"Imam Khomeyni," said the Lebanese official, "was a leader who inspired the oppressed peoples of the world in their struggle against tyranny and arrogance."

Velayati in response appreciated the sympathetic feelings of the Lebanese, and expressed hope the Islamic Republic would continue to support Muslims and the struggling people in Lebanon.

IRNA Notes Bush Request for Hostages' Release

LD0606123689 Tehran IRNA in English 1221 GMT 6 Jun 89

["Pool" item]

[Text] Washington, June 6 (Pool-TAP)—President George Bush requested Monday from the new supreme leader of Iran, 'Ali Khamene'i, to assist in the liberation of nine Americans kept hostage in Lebanon if he wished to improve Iranian-American relations.

During a televised news conference, Bush estimated that it was difficult to foresee if changes would take place in Iran now, after Khamene'i has been chosen to succeed Ayatollah Khomeyni who passed away last Saturday.

USSR's Gorbachev Sends Condolence Message

LD0606130189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, leader of the Soviet Union, in a message to Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader and head [ra'is] of the Islamic Republic of Iran, offered condolences on the occasion of the demise of His Excellency the Imam Khomeyni. The text of the message is as follows:

Your Excellency, Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, leader and president [riyasat] of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Following the demise of the imam, Ruhollah al-Musavi al-Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran whose name is associated with the latest phase that has opened up in the rapid progress in relations between the USSR and Iran please accept my profound condolences.

[Signed] Gorbachev, Moscow, the Kremlin

[Dated] 6 June 1989

British Government, Church Not To Attend Funeral

LD0506172589 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] London, June 5, IRNA—Neither the British Government nor the Church of England are expected to send representatives to the funeral of Imam Khomeyni and neither have sent messages of condolences.

The Foreign Office in London said Monday it had "no comment" to make about the leader of the Islamic revolution, who passed away on Saturday.

Like the office of Prime Minister Thatcher, it was unaware of any official message being sent to Tehran, nor if any representative would be attending his funeral on Tuesday. A Buckingham Palace spokeswoman also said there had been no telegram of sentiments.

The ascent of Imam Khomeyni and the Islamic revolution in Iran coincided with the rise to power of Thatcher, which left Britain losing its previously favoured interests and hostile to the Islamic Government.

Several Muslim leaders in Britain have alrady left for Tehran to pay their respects to the imam whom they regard as a "great Islamic leader."

Numerous British journalists are also hoping to go in person for what they expect will be one of the biggest funerals in history.

The only British officials expressing any opinion so far have been Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Archbishop Runcie said Imam Khomeyni was "beyond doubt the leader of a profound revolution," but speaking during a visit to Africa he was unprepared to say anything further than that his death would "plainly have substantial consequences."

Foreign Secretary Howe similarly gave a guarded response, but maintained that Britain, which had its relationship severed by Iran in March, wanted in due course to have better ties with the Iranian people and government.

He said on London's Independent Radio it was "more difficult to foresee what is likely to follow the death of such a leader" as it was "much too soon" to know if it would help Britain to open a new door.

Britain 'Rekindles' Refusal To Ban 'Verses'

LD0606192189 Tehran IRNA in English 1715 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] London, June 6, IRNA—At a time when world Muslims mourn for the late leader of the Islamic revolution, Britain's reaction to the passing away of Imam Khomeyni has been a crude attempt to rekindle its refusal to ban 'The Satanic Verses'.

A Foreign Office spokesman told IRNA Tuesday that Britain wanted a "clear statement" from the Iranian Government to abide by what he called its "international obligations."

Britain was "ready to have normal relations with Iran," but in particular was wanting a public renouncement of Imam Khomeyni's fatwa [religion decree] on the author of the book, he said.

The British Government's position has constantly been to treat the unanimously accepted Islamic decree in some way as a "death threat" on U.K. citizens.

The fatwa has presented wholesale problems for London since its issue on February 14 and provoked wide support from the U.K's 1.5 million Muslims as well as from the Muslim community worldwide in recognition of the blasphemous nature of the book.

Last May, London was the scene of a mammoth demonstration against the government's obstinacy to protect apostate author Salman Rushdie, who is a naturalized British citizen.

The British Government's intransigence not to act led Iran to sever ties with London, which left Britain again isolated as the only European country without representation in Tehran.

Some observers here believe the re-raising of the issue at this time is to provoke a further response from Tehran in an attempt to achieve more than the marginal support Britain has gained to help its isolated position.

Separately in a debate in the House of Lords on Monday, Foreign Office Minister Lord Glenarthur said Britain's position was now one of waiting to see what policy changes may follow in Iran, but further indicated that the fatwa was the underlying issue.

Opposition leader of the house, Lord Cledwyn had challenged the government by urging that a "stable government" was needed in Iran and asking for "good wishes" to be sent to the country's new leader President Khamene'i to pave the way for better relations.

Foreign Dignitaries Arrive for Funeral

LD0606110489 Tehran IRNA in English 1058 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 6, IRNA—Several high-ranking foreign officials heading delegations arrived here Monday night and early Tuesday to participate at the funeral ceremony of the deceased leader of the Islamic revolution Imam Khomeyni.

Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan accompanied by two ministers, the Pakistani Shi'ite leader Seyyed Sajed Naqavi, several parliamentary delegates and the president of Afghanistan interim government Sebghatullah Mojaddedi were welcomed at the airport by Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati last night.

Upon arrival, they condoled the loss of the great leader of the Islamic revolution to the Iranian nation and authorities and said that Imam Khomeyni belonged to all Muslims of the world.

Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao, at the head of a high-ranking delegation including two other ministers, arrived this morning and was welcomed by Velayati.

To pay homage to Imam Khomeyni, Rao stopped for a while in front of his large portrait at the airport.

President of the Algerian Popular Assembly Rabah Bitat and president of the Libyan Popular Congress Miftah al-Usta 'Umar at the head of delegations also arrived this morning.

"The Libyan delegation is here to participate at Imam Khomeyni's funeral service and to express the deepest condolences of the Libyan nation and leadership," 'Umar said upon arrival.

"Imam Khomeyni was an extraordinary politician," commented Bitat who also said that he represented the Algerian nation and government to convey their condolences and sympathy.

"We think that it is our obligation to be with the Iranian nation and government at this sensitive stage," he added.

Lebanese, Palestinian Delegation

LD0506082789 Tehran IRNA in English 0758 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 5, IRNA—Lebanese first Deputy Prime Minister 'Abdallah al-Rasi accompanied by Lebanese and Palestinian political and religious personalities arrived here today to participate in the funeral ceremony of the leader of the Islamic Revolution, on Tuesday [6 June].

"The delegation has been sent to Tehran on behalf of the Lebanese Government and people to condole the Iranian nation on the great event," al-Rasi said upon arrival, noting that the Lebanese people's grief and sorrow is not less than Iranians.

Al-Rasi who doubles as Lebanon's interior minister expressed hope that Imam Khomeyni's path in political and humanitarian fields would continue.

Sheikh Subhi al-Tufayli, Sayyid 'Abbas Musawi, Sayyid Ibrahim Khalil, Sayyid Husayn Musawi, Dr. Fathi Saqawi from Palestine, Shaykh 'Abd al-Rahim Qabalan and Shaykh Mahir Hamud are among the personalities who have come to Iran.

Meanwhile, Japanese Prime Minister Sosuke Uno today announced that Japan will send a especial envoy to Tehran to participate in Imam Khomeyni's funeral ceremony. However, he did not give any name.

Sosuke sent a message of condolence for his Iranian counterpart Hoseyn Musavi on the occasion, Sunday [4 June].

High advisor to the Iranian president Mustafa Mirsalim represented Iran in the funeral ceremony of the late Japanese Emperor Hirohito last February.

Pakistani President's Condolences

LD0606111889 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 6, IRNA—Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan last night met and offered condolences to the new leader of the Islamic Republic President Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i on the sad passing away of the great leader of the Islamic revolution.

"Imam Khomeyni was not the leader of the Iranian people alone but also of the Muslim world," Ishaq Khan said, terming the imam "a bold revolutionary personality with a deep insight of Islam."

He felt confident that Ayatollah Khamene'i's closeness to the late imam coupled with ten years of high responsibility in state affairs, will enable Iran to continue its revolutionary and constructive path.

"We sincerely and decisively stand by you," Ishaq Khan told Khamene'i.

On the Western media's propaganda tirade on the future of the Islamic Republic after Imam Khomeyni, Ishaq Khan said since Pakistan has very close religious-historical ties with Iran, it has tried to make the West understand the inaccuracy of its interpretations, and told them "Islamic Iran will stand firm."

Ayatollah Khamene'i in response noting the brotherly ties between the two Muslim peoples, said "we are sure our Pakistani brethren share sympathy with us this great sorrow (loss of Imam Khomeyni)."

Iran, he said will continue its chosen internal and external policies, and recalled Imam Khomeyni's special emphasis on relations with Muslims states particularly its neighbours. "We are ready to further strengthen mutual cooperation," he added.

Towards the end of the meeting, President Ishaq Khan signed the memorial book at the president office. "Men like Imam Khomeyni never die. They stand immortal throughout the course of history," Ishaq Khan wrote.

Turkish Official Meets Leaders

TA0606202689 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2000 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] State Minister Cemil Cicek, who is currently in Tehran to attend Khomeyni's funeral on behalf of Turkey, called on new Iranian leader Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i at the presidential palace. Cicek also held talks with Behzad Nabavi, Iranian heavy industries minister. The two ministers reviewed the general economic and commercial situation between the two countries.

According to an ANATOLIA AGENCY report, Cicek will meet with Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi tomorrow.

Kuwaiti Minister Meets Velayati

LD0606231989 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Tehran, June 6, IRNA—Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammed al-'Usaymi who is here to attend the leader of the Islamic revolution's funeral, met Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today.

Al-'Usaymi, whose country had taken an erroneous stand during the 8-year long Iraqi aggression, expressed desire for improvement of ties with Islamic Iran.

Velayati thanking the Kuwaiti delegation for attending the funeral hoped that mutual ties would expand.

Khamene'i Receives Delegations

LD0606180289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this afternoon received members of foreign delegations currently in Tehran to offer condolences on the death of His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, may his dust become sacred.

At the start of the meeting, he thanked members of the delegations for sharing the immense sorrow of the Muslim Iranian nation, adding: His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, may his dust become sacred, was a great leader, a kind father, an aware teacher, and a guide for the Iranian nation. Our nation, during the difficult time of struggle as well as during the 10 years of the Islamic Republic of Iran, felt the presence, guidance, and support of his excellency all the time, even in all the difficult periods. He added: Imam Khomeyni liberated our nation from the abject state that was imposed upon it and cut off the control of the great Western and Eastern powers over our nation. He taught our nation self-reliance and reliance on the Almighty.

The leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran added: At a time when many powers tried to isolate moral values, Imam Khomeyni established a system based on moral, spiritual, and religious values. Imam Khomeyni proved that Islam is alive and can be the foundation of a social system. He added: We will maintain this great inheritance of Imam Khomeyni and all its fundamental values and principles and will concentrate our efforts on the construction of society and the reconstruction of all national values.

Ayatollah Khamene'i stressed: Our road is that of Imam Khomeyni and we shall move on this path with all our power and complete decisiveness.

At the end of the meeting the foreign guests signed the Islamic Republic's memorial book for the passing away of his holiness the imam.

Libyans Meet Majlis Speaker

NC0706100489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The speakers of Libyan and Algerian parliaments who are in our country to express condolences on the death of the great leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, went to the Majlis building yesterday afternoon and met with Majlis Speaker Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The Central News Unit reports that during this joint meeting, the speakers of the Libyan and Algerian parliaments conveyed the condolences of their leaders and nations and expressed their sympathy with the leader, government, and people of Iran.

Expressing grief over the demise of Imam Khomeyni, the speaker of the Algerian parliament stated: Imam Khomeyni was not only the leader of the Iranian people, he was also a great man who was able to upset international equations.

In response, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked the speakers of the Algerian and Libyan parliaments for coming to convey condolences and said: We do not consider the imam to belong only to us. Despite the political responsibility he had in Iran, he also belonged to the other Muslims of the world. The Majlis speaker also added: Algeria is among those Islamic countries and countries of the Third World with which we can have outstanding relations.

Tudeh Party Statement on Khomeyni's Death

LD0506215289 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 0230 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Dear listeners, esteemed compatriots: We invite your attention for the first statement by the Iranian Tudeh Party concerning Khomeyni's death. We shall try to broadcast any further statement and messages from the party immediately upon their receipt:

Noble and free Iranian people, revolutionary, progressive and freedom-loving forces, Khomeyni's death is a very important political event in the current, complicated and sensitive conditions in our homeland. Khomeyni, who was founder of the regime of the Islamic Republic, in his reign went through an amazing number of changes. Having taken over the reins of power with the support of the multitude of the masses, he followed the aspirations of the revolution for a short period. However, later on he distanced himself and moved away from them and later still he opposed them, thus increasing his and his regime's isolation. It was under these conditions that he left this world. The Tudeh Party of Iran believes that Khomeyni's death is a turning point in the 10-year life of the regime of the Islamic Republic and can be the start of important changes in the revolutionary and democratic movement in our homeland, aimed at achieving freedom, peace, independance and social justice.

Khomeyni's death, which did not give him the opportunity to renew the crumbling system of Velayat-e Faqih [jurisconsult] will intensify the political crisis and the instability of the regime.

Compatriots, our homeland is engulfed in a political, social, economic and cultural crisis resulting from 10 years of the rule of the regime of Velayat-e Faqih. With Khomeyni's death, this total crisis will intensify. The trend of disappointment of the masses and freedom-loving and patriotic elements and movements, both within and around the regime, is expanding.

Under such sensitive circumstancs, we must move responsibly and with forethought toward the unity of all freedom-seeking, peace-loving, and independant forces of the country. Only the extensive unity of all these forces can put a nationalist and popular government in the place of the crisis ridden and reactionary ruling regime. The Iranian Tudeh Party invites all members, supporters and party organizations to play their revolutionary role in these sensitive times with staunch determination and necessary political awareness. The zealous party activists and sacrificing and combatant organizations must try to take the revolutionary policies and guidance of the party among the people with delicacy and precision and leave their marks on the current events of the country.

Party activists must discover the special conditions of the political situation in the country through (?overt and covert) means and concentrate maximum effort in realising the nationalist and popular goals of their party.

[Signed] Tudeh Party of Iran

[Dated] 4 June 1989

Khamene'i Reads Khomeyni's Will, Part II

LD0606182289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1117 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] We draw your attention to the second part of his excellency the imam's will. It is necessary to point out that the pauses that occur in the recording are because of the fact that Ayatollah Khamene'i was reading the will without having seen it before.

[Khamene'i] Among the evil plans devised by the great colonialist and exploiting powers—which have been implemented for a long time now and which reached their climax in Iran during the era of Reza Khan [Reza Shah Pahlavi] and were subsequently continued during the era of Mohammad Reza [the former Pahlavi Shah]—one can mention the attempts to isolate the clergy. This was carried out during the era of Reza Khan by pressure, oppression, defrocking, and aggression, and insults on the Koran and the like. During the era of Mohammad Reza, other plans and methods were used. Among these, one can mention attempts to create enmity between the clergy and the university personnel by using extensive propaganda. How unfortunate it was that, because both camps were unaware of the superpowers' evil plot, considerable results were achieved.

On the one hand, from primary school to university level, there was an attempt to select tutors and teachers from the ranks of those who were oriented toward either West or East, or those who distorted Islam and other religions, so that faithful tutors would remain in a minority. This was because they wanted all the students—who would be taking over the government in the future—from their childhood, through adolescence, to their youth, to be brought up to hate all religions, particularly Islam, so that they would despise the people associated with religions—particularly Islam's clergy. The brave clergy were labeled as English elements, or proponents of capitalism, feudalism, reactionism; or against civilization and progress.

On the other hand, by orchestrating inauspicious propaganda, they tried to frighten the clergy, orators, and [word indistinct] from universities and the people in them, who were all portrayed as irreligious, promiscuous, and antagonistic to manifestations of Islam and other religions. All this was done to bring statesmen up to be against religions, Islam, the clergy, and the pious, and so that the masses of people—who are inclined toward religion—and clergy should become antagonistic to the government and the state and everything associated with it. This was done so that the deep division between the state and the people, and between the university and clergy, would pave the way for the plunderers to such an extent that all of the nation's assets and resources would be under their control and in their own pockets. We witnessed the mishaps that have happened to this oppressed nation; and more was on its way.

It was through God's will and the struggles of the nation that all levels—from the clergy to universities, from bazaari to workers, farmers, and other levels—managed to emancipate themselves from the bonds of captivity and break the siege of the superpowers, subsequently saving the country from the grip of the superpowers and their agents. My admonition is that the present generation should not become complacent. The university people, these brave dear young people, should create greater bonds of friendship and understanding with the clergy and religious seminary students. They should continue to be vigilant to plots and plans by the ruthless enemy. The moment they see someone who—by words or deeds—is trying to create division among them, they should disown and expose him. If this is not effective, he should be completely isolated, so that the conspiracy does not become deep-rooted, (?lest the stream become polluted at its source). In particular, if one person is found from the ranks of the tutors who seeks to create distortations, he should be exposed and—if possible—disowned and expelled from the class. This admonition is mainly addressed to the clergy and religious seminary students, as plots in universities have a special dimension, though both the esteemed strata—who constitute the thinking brain of society—must be vigilant to conspiracies.

One of the conspiracies that has had a great influence in various countries, including our own dear country, and whose effects to a large extent still remains is the alienation of colonized countries from their own identity, so that they turn toward West or East; so that they see no value in their own culture and their own strengths, while they regard the two powerful blocs as a superior race with a superior culture; so that they regard these two powers as the point the whole world should turn toward. They described dependence upon one of these two blocs as an unavoidable necessity. The story of this sad tale is a lone one, and the blows that have been delivered to us or are being delivered at the moment are deadly and crushing.

A more tragic fact is that they [the two blocs] have kept the oppressed and dominated countries behind in everyway and have turned them into consumer countries. They have so overawed us with their progress and their Satanic tricks that we do not dare to take any initiative. We have surrendered everything we have to them, and we have entrusted our fates and the fates of our countries into their hands, and with closed eyes and closed ears we are ready to carry out their orders. This artificial hollowness and inadequacy has led us not to rely upon our own thought and learning in anything and to blindly imitate the East or the West. The Eastern or Western intoxicated, uncultured writers and speakers have even poured scorn upon and have criticized the literature, culture, industry, and initiative that we did possess, and have even weakened and paralyzed our own indigenous thinking and strengths. In return, they propagate, in their actions, words, and writings, alien customs and traditions, no matter how decadent and absurd they may be; and by singing their praises, they force it upon our nation and other nations.

For instance, if in a book, a piece of writing, or a speech there are a few Western terms, without paying any attention to their contents, they accept them with awe; and the writers of such terms are regarded as learned and intellectuals. From the cradle to the grave, whatever we look at, if a Western or Eastern term has been placed on it, it would be regarded as desirable and praiseworthy and would be regarded as manifestations of civilization and progress; while if native and familiar terms are used, they would be regarded as old-fashioned, wrong, and reactionary. If our children have Western names they feel proud, but if they have native names they are regarded as backward and shameful. Streets, roads, shops, companies, pharmacies, libraries, (?cloths), and other goods, even though they may be produced at home, have to be given a foreign name so that the people like them and turn to them. Westernization from head to foot, in all affairs, and in all aspects of life has become the course of price and honor, civilization and progress, while our own customs and manners are regarded as backwardness and worship of the past.

Every illness and ailment, even if it is minor and treatable at home, people go abroad for a cure, thus condemning our own learned doctors and specialists and making them despair. Visiting England, France, the United States, and Moscow is seen as a very valuable and proud act, while going on a pilgrimage to the holy places is regarded as backwardness and worship of the past. Being indifferent about all that concerns religion and religious matters is a sign of intellectualism and civilization; indeed, commitment to such issues is seen as a sign of backwardness and worship of the past.

I am not saying that we possess everything ourselves. It is clear that over many centuries, especially during recent centuries, they [the superpowers] have prevented us from progressing. Traitorous government leaders, especially the Pahlavi dynasty, by their scornful attitude toward our own gains and by forcing us to belittle ourselves or regard ourselves as nothing, have deprived us of any motivation for progress. By importing goods of all kinds and by keeping the ladies and men, especially the young generation, amused with imported goods such as makeup, adornments, showy goods, and other childish games; by forcing families to compete with one another and leading them toward greater consumption, which in itself is a sad story; by amusing and corrupting the youth who are the active members of the society; and by setting up centers of prostitution, pleasure houses, and scores of other calculated stratagems; they have managed to keep countries backward.

I humbly and compassionately advise the dear nation that, now that it has become liberated from many of these traps to a very remarkable extent, and advise the dear and wise generation which, thanks to the wise creator, has been endowed with initiative, we have seen many of the guards in the progressive industries—the aircraft industry and others—when it was thought impossible that Iranian technicians would be able to operate the factories and similar things, and so we extended our hand toward the West or the East, so that their technicians would operate them. In spite of the obstacles of the economic problems and the imposed war, our very own dear youth manufactured the necesary parts where needed and put them on the market at a cheaper price, and thus alleviated the needs. They proved that we can do it if we choose to.

We should be watchful, vigilant, and alert so that politicians who are affiliated with the West and the East do not drag you toward those international plunderers by using their Satanic persuasions. You should rise against these affiliations with resolute determination, endeavor, and initiative, and you should know that the Aryan and Arabic race are no less important than the races in

Europe, the United States, and Russia, and that if our race discovers itself, keeps despondency at bay, and stops looking at others, it has the ability to perform any task and to construct everything, in the long term. And then you will attain what those who are similar to the Iranians have attained, provided you put your trust in God and yourselves, to stop dependence on others and tolerate humiliations so as to attain an honorable life, and thus liberate yourselves from the domination of foreigners.

Those who are in charge, whether in this generation or the next, should thank their experts and encourage them with spiritual and material assistance. They should prevent the import of wasteful and home-destroying commodities. They should be content with what they have, so that they become self-sufficient.

I ask all the young people—boys and girls—to preserve their independence, freedom, and human values, even through hardship and toil, and not to respond to the call of the tyrants of arrogance and their decadence and obscene ceremonies, who invade you as if you are nationless and who—as experience has shown—think of nothing else but to try and lead you astray, to make you indifferent to the fate of your country, to plunder your reserves, to bring you under the shame of colonialism and dependence, and to pillage the nation and the country. By such means, they wish to keep you backward and, in their words, half-barbarian.

Among their other conspiracies, as we have indicated before, is that of taking over the centers of training and education, especially the universities. The crucial concerns of their countries is in the hands of their officials. Their methods differ from those of the Islamic clerics. Their methods, pursued at schools and universities, are to remove the clergy from their path and to alienate them; or to use aggression and profanity, which was common practice in the era of Reza Shah, but had adverse results; or to use shameful deeds, libel, and diabolical schemes for the purpose of separating the educated and so-called intellectual strata, which was also done in the era of Reza Shah, when there was suppression and pressure. It continued in the era of Mohammad Reza, without aggression but insidiously. The plan at the universities is to cause the youth to deviate from culture, ethics, and essential values and to direct them toward either the East or the West. They select the government leaders from among these people and put them in charge of their countries' fate so as to carry out whatever they wish through their hands. They wish to drag the country into Westernization and plunder, and to prevent the clergy from putting a stop to this by isolating them and making them dejected and defeatist. This is the best means of holding back and weakening the countries that are under domination, since it does not involve any cost or toil from the superpowers, and does not create any noise in the national communities. Whatever there is goes into their pocket.

Now that the universities and colleges are in the process of being purged and reformed, it is incumbent upon all of us to help those in charge, and not to allow the universities to be deviated forever, and to make amendments wherever we notice any deviations, by acting swiftly. This vital matter, should, in the first instance, be carried out by the capable hands of the young people in the universities, and colleges, since to liberate the universities from deviations is to liberate the country and the nation. I command all young people and adolescents in the first place; their fathers, mothers, and friends in the second place; and the government officials and open-minded persons who care for the country in the third place to endeavor with all their heart and soul to carry out their important matter that preserves your country from harm, and to hold the universities in trust for the next generation. I advise all future generations to preserve and purge the universities from the deviations, Easternization, and Westernization, so as to liberate themselves, the dear country, and name-making Islam, and to cut off the hands of the great powers from your country, making them despondent, through your Islamic and humanitarian action. May your God support and shield you.

3) [number as heard] One of the important matters is the commitment of the Majlis deputies. We saw what depressing damage was inflicted on the country by a Majlis that was impious and deviated from the beginning of the constitutional revolution until the end of the criminal Pahlavi regime's reign, the last period of which was the worst and most dangerous under the rule of that imposed and corrupt regime, and what life-destroying suffering and losses were inflicted on the country and the nation through the rule of these valueless criminals and hirelings. During those 50 years, the rule of the deviated minority over the oppressed majority resulted in implementing the wishes of Britain and of the Soviet Union and, latterly the United States, by the hands of the same Godless perverts who ruined the country and dragged it to distruction.

Almost from the beginning of the constitutional revolution, none of the significant articles of the Constitution were respected. These articles were violated before Reza Khan under the supervision of individuals intoxicated with the West, some feudal khans, and land grabbers, and during the regime of Pahlavi, in the hand of that ruthless regime and its agents and hirelings. Now that, thanks to Almighty God's help and the efforts of the great nation, the people have taken charge of the country's destiny and the Majlis deputies have found their way to the Islamic Consultative Assembly by the people's vote, from the midst of the people and without intervention of the government and feudal khans, it is hoped that through their commitment to Islam and the interests of the country, any deviation will be prevented.

My recommendation in the will and testament for present time and the future is this: In every term of the Majlis, during the elections, vote for those deputies who are committed to Islam and the Islamic Republic, most of whom come from the oppressed and the middle class in society, those who do not deviate from the straight path to lean on the East or West, without any tendency toward deviationist ideologies, educated individuals aware of world problems of the day of the Islamic policies. And in my will, I call upon the esteemed association of the clergy and particularly the great sources of imitation not to stand aside in the issues of society, particularly presidential elections and Majlis elections. They should not remain indifferent.

You all saw, and the future generation will hear, how the policymakers affiliated to the East and the West ousted the clergy from the arena, to whose suffering we owe the founding of the Constitution. And the clergy themselves were deceived by the policymakers to accept that any intervention in the affairs of the state and of the Muslims is outside their sphere of influence. They therefore left the arena to those who are intoxicated by the West and as a result, the Constitution, the country, and Islam were damaged, the repair work of which requires a long period.

Now that, thanks to Almighty God, the obstacles are removed and a free atmosphere has been created for the involvement of all the people, there can be no place for excuses. One of the big and unforgivable sins is indifference to the affairs of Muslims. Everyone, within the limits of his capability and influence, must serve Islam and the Muslims, and should seriously prevent the penetration of those who are affiliated to the two colonialist poles, those Eastern-oriented, Western-oriented individuals and those who have deviated from the great ideology of Islam. They should realize that the opponents of Islam and the Islamic countries, that is, the international plundering superpowers, infiltrate our country and other Islamic countries through conspiracy and by subtle and clever moves, and will entrap these countries by using individuals from our own nations. You must watch them vigilantly, and as soon as you feel that the first step toward infiltration is taken, you must rise to confront them. May God assist you in this task.

I call upon the Islamic Majlis deputies in this era and in coming eras to, if, God forbid, some deviant elements impose themselves as people's deputies through conspiracy and political tricks, to make certain that the Majlis rejects their credentials. They should not allow even a single destructive affiliated element to enter the Majlis. I also ask the officially recognized religious minorities to learn a lesson from the Majlis sessions during the Pahlavi regime and elect those deputies who are committed to their own religion and the Islamic Republic and are not affiliated to the blasphemous and deviationist ideologies.

I call upon all Majlis deputies to treat each other with respect and fraternity and to strive to make certain that laws do not deviate from Islam, God forbid. All should remain loyal to Islam and its heavenly laws so as to achieve prosperity in this and the next world.

I call upon the esteemed Council of Guardians, in this era and during future generations, to implement its Islamic and national duties with the utmost care and powerfully; and not to be influenced by any power. They should reject without hesitation all the laws which are contrary to the sacred Shari'a and the Constitution. They should pay attention to the country's needs, which sometimes require the involvement of secondary islamic laws and sometimes that of the supremacy of the jurisconsult [velayat-e faqih].

My request in my will to the noble people is that they should participate in all elections, whether it is the election for the president, or for the deputies of the Islamic Majlis, or the election of the experts [khobregan] for the appointment of the leadership council or the leader. The criteria for those who are elected should be valid; for instance, during the election of experts to appoint the leadership council or the leader, people should take care not to be negligent and should elect the experts on the basis of religious and legal regulations so as to avoid any damage that could be inflicted on Islam and the country that may be irreparable. In this respect, we are all responsible in the presence of God, the Almighty; and on this basis—the issue of the failure of the people to be involved—everyone, but everyone—from the Sources of Emulation [maraje] to the higher 'ulema, to the bazaaris, farming, worker and white-collar classes—is responsible for the destiny of the country and Islam; both the present generation and those to come. Often, in certain circumstances, being absent and negligent would amount to a sin that would rank among the top great sins.

The remedy for this is to prevent it before it occurs, otherwise the task will get out of hand, and this is a reality that we experienced after the constitutional revolution of 1905-1911. There is no better cure than this: that the nation, all over the country, should carry out those tasks that are within the realm of its responsibility, in accordance with Islamic principles and the Constitution. In the appointment of the president, the Majlis deputies should consult [mashverat] with the educated, committed, and enlightened class who are informed about current affairs and not dependent on the powerful, exploiting countries, who are renowned for their piety and commitment to Islam and the Islamic Republic; and they should also consult with the pious 'ulema and clergymen who are committed to Islam and the Islamic Republic. They should take care that the president and Majlis deputies should be from a class that is familiar with the deprivations and meekness of the meek and oppressed in society and have their welfare in mind; they should not come from affluent capitalists, landed aristocracy, nobility [sadr-neshinan] who bask in pleasures and carnal desires, and who cannot understand the extent of the deprivation and the suffering of the hungry and barefoot people. We should recognize that if the president and the Majlis deputies are competent and committed to Islam and care for the country and the people, then many of the problems will not occur. If there are any problems they will be eliminated. This also applies to the election of experts to appoint the leadership council and the leader; they should be specially noted.

For if the experts—who are elected by the people, with utmost care through consultation with the sources of emulation of each given period and the higher 'ulema all over the country and believers and committed scholars—get into the Assembly of Experts, then many of the problems and difficulties will not arise because of the appointment of the most prominent, committed personalities for the leadership and the leadership council, or the problems will be eliminated through competence. Bearing in mind principles 109 and 110 of the Constitution, the heavy responsibility for the people in appointing the experts and deputies, in the appointment of the leader or the leadership council, it is clear that the slightest negligence in the process of election will inflict harm on Islam, the country, and the Islamic Republic, the likelihood of which—which is highly important—binds them to divine duty.

The request in my will to the leader and the leadership council, in this age—which is an age of attacks by the superpowers and their affiliates inside and outside the country, against the Islamic Republic and, in truth, against Islam, under cover of the Islamic Republic—and in future ages is that they should devote themselves to serving Islam, the Islamic Republic, and the deprived and the meek. They should not entertain the idea that the leadership has come to them like a windfall [tohfeh] and that it is a lofty position. It is, on the contrary, a heavy and dangerous responsibility, the slightest lapse [laghzesh] in which—God forbid—if it happens through self-interest, will bring with it eternal shame in this world and the fire of the wrath of the angered God in the other world.

I ask the munificent Almighty God—I beseech him humbly—to see us and you through this dangerous test and accept us in pride in his illustrious presence and rescue us. This danger also exists, although slightly less heavily, for the present and future presidents and cabinets and officials and those holding positions of responsibilities; they should be aware of Almighty God, the omnipresent, and know that they are in his blessed presence. May God, the Almighty, open the path for them.

3) [number as heard] Among important affairs is that of judicial issues which deal with people's lives, possessions, and their honor. My request to the leader and the leadership council in the will is that they should make every effort in appointment to the highest judicial position for which they are responsible [as heard] to choose persons who are experienced and committed and learned in religious law and Islamic affairs and in politics. I request that the Supreme Judicial Council reform the judiciary, which fell into such a miserable and wretched state under the last regime, in all seriousness; and those who play with the lives and possessions of people and those who are not interested in Islamic justice should be removed from this important platform. With hard work and sincerity, they should gradually reform the Ministry of Justice. Those judges who have the qualifications and are, God willing, being trained, in all sincerity, in the seminaries, especially the blessed Qom seminary, and who are introduced, should replace those judges who do not have the Islamic qualifications required, so that, God willing, Islamic judgment may soon prevail all over the country.

I request in the will that the respected judges in this present age and coming ages should take into consideration the traditions which have been passed down to us about the immaculate imams—may God's benedictions be upon them—on the importance of the judiciary and the great dangers involved in judgment, and by paying attention to what has been said about unjust judgment, should take charge of this grave responsibility and not allow this position to be entrusted to unqualified persons. Those who are qualified should not shirk from the duty of being in charge of this responsibility. They should not allow unqualified persons to enter the arena and should know that just as the dangers of this position are great, its recompence, reward, and blessings are also great. They know that being engaged in judicial matters is a religious obligation on those who are qualified for it.

4) My admonition to the sacred religious seminaries is, as I have said before: At this time, when the enemies of Islam and the Islamic Republic are intent on toppling Islam, trying to achieve that Satanic objective in every possible way, it must be remembered that one of the important methods of their inauspicious objectives, and one of the elements which is endangering Islam and Islamic seminaries, is their attempts to infiltrate deviant and criminal people into the religious seminaries. The short-term danger of this is that it gives a bad name to the seminaries because of these elements' inappropriate mode of thought or behavior. The very great long-term danger of this is that one of these imposters may reach a position of importance. These kind of imposters become familiar with Islamic sciences, then infiltrate the ranks of honest people, getting them involved, and then wait to deliver a killing blow to the Islamic seminaries, the beloved Islam, and the country when the time is ripe.

We are well aware that the plundering great powers always have people at their disposal in societies, who may appear in different guises from the nationalists to the psuedo-intellectuals and the pseudo-clergy; the last strata is the most dangerous one if they find the right opportunity. This is because they can, for 40 years, live patiently among the nations, by propagating pseudo-piety, pan-Iranism, nationalism, and other ploys. They will wait for the time to carry out their mission. During the short time since the victory of the revolution, our dear nation has witnessed many examples of this, such as the Mojahedin-e Khalq and Fada'i-e Khalq, members of Tudeh party, and other similar names. Everyone must be vigilant and nullify such conspiracies.

Most essential of all are the religious seminaries, whose purification and purging is the responsibility of the esteemed instructors and the experienced scientists, with the approval of supreme interpreters. Perhaps the thesis stating that order is in disorder, is one of the inauspicious inspirations of these conspirators and planners.

In any case, my admonition is that at all times—particularly at the present juncture when such plans and conspiracies have gained momentum and strength—an uprising is needed to restore order in the seminaries. The dear instructors, clergy, and esteemed scientists should tighten their belts and devise a precise and comprehensive plan to safeguard the religious seminaries at present, in particular the Qom seminary and other major important seminaries. It is necessary that the dear instructors and clergy should not allow lessons pertaining to jurisprudence and other fundamental intellectual fields to deviate from the path of Mashayekhi [an orthodox school of Sh'iat jurisprudence], which is the only path for the preservation of Islamic jurisprudence. They must ensure that everyday, more precision is observed in debates, research, and findings; and that the orthodox jurisprudence—which is the heritage of the blessed ancestors, and deviation from which means the weakening of the pillars of research—should be safeguarded. Research must be compiled upon research. Of course, in other branches of science, according to the needs of the country and Islam, planning will be carried out, and experts must be trained in those branches. Among the most supreme subjects which must be taught in an all-encompassing way, one must mention the spiritual sciences of Islam, such as the ethical sciences, reformation of self, the movement of man toward God—may God bestow his blessing upon you.

Among the fields which need to be reformed and safeguarded is the executive power. It is possible that at times laws which are progressive and useful for society might pass the Majlis and the approval of the Council of Guardians, and the appropriate minister may pass on the law, but only to unsuitable implementors, who will put the law through a process of metamorphosis, and act against the regulations or involve the law in a great deal of excessive paperwork and complexities which they are accustomed to, or even act intentionally to cause worry among the people. Gradually this will cause an uproar.

My admonition to the responsible ministers now and in the future is that in addition to the fact that you and the ministry employees are earning your livelihood from a budget which belongs to the nation, you should all serve the people—in particular the deprived classes; hassling people and acting in contradiction to your duties is religiously forbidden and sometimes causes God's wrath, God forbid. Also, you all need the nation's support. It was through the people's support—especially that of the deprived classes—that victory was attained and the hands of monarchy-tyranny were cut off from the country and its resources. Should you become deprived of their support one day, you too will be ousted, and, as during the era of the tyrant monarchy regime, your places will be occupied by the oppressors. On the basis of this tangible fact, you must try to attract the nation's favorable opinion and avoid anti-human and non-Islamic behavior. On that basis, I admonish all the ministers of the country throughout future history to be careful in their appointment of governors-general, and appoint people who are suitable, faithful, pious, committed, wise and harmonious with people, so that calm and peace may rule the country more than ever.

It must be remembered that although all ministers and ministeries have a responsibility in the Islamization of the affairs under their juristiction, some of them have particular importance, such as the Foreign Ministry, which is responsible for the country's embassies abroad. From the beginning of the victory of the revolution, I have provided guidelines for the foreign ministers in connection with the possibility of embassies being afflicted by the decadent culture [taghut-zadeh-gi] and in connection with their transformation into embassies befitting the Islamic republic.

However some of them did not, or could not, act positively. Now, 3 years after the victory [as heard], although the present foreign minister has taken steps to that end and there is hope that with time and effort this important matter will be carried out, I would like to stress to the present and future foreign ministers that their responsibilities are indeed great, whether in reforming and transforming the ministry and the embassies or in the foreign policy, which must entail the preservation of the country's interests and independence and the establishment of cordial relations with those governments who are not intent on interference in the internal affairs of our country. I charge you to firmly avoid any issue which has an aura of dependency, with all its various dimensions. You must be aware that although dependency might, in certain aspects, be deceptive, or that it might contain certain interests for the country, ultimately it will only drag the country to destruction. You must try to establish better relations with Islamic countries, and awaken the statement and invite them to unity and solidarity, as God is with you.

The Islamic countries should not expect somebody from abroad to help them attain the objective, which is, Islam and implementation of the orders of Islam. You should yourselves rise to acheive that vital affair—freedom and independence.

The learned 'ulema and the honorable preachers of the Islamic countries must invite their governments to free themselves from dependence on major foreign powers, and arrive at understanding with their own nations. That way they will achieve victory.

Meanwhile, the learned 'ulema and the preachers of Islamic countries must invite the nations to unity and warn them to beware of racism which is against the instructions of Islam. Tell them to extend the hand of brotherhood to their coreligionists from any country and any race—great Islam regards them as brothers. If some day such a great religious brotherhood is achieved through the efforts of governments and nations and with the approval of the great God, you will see that the greatest power on earth will be that of the Muslims. I hope for the day when, God willing, such a fraternity and equality will be acheived.

As to the Ministry of Islamic Guidance, I bequeath that in all periods, especially during the present time which has a specific speciality [as heard], it must make efforts to speed up the superiority of right over wrong and to propagate the true face of the Islamic Republic. Now, when we have cut the hands of the superpowers from our country, we are the target of a propaganda invasion by all the mendacious media which belong to the big powers. What lies and accusations have not been hurled at the young Islamic Republic by the speakers and writers belonging to the superpowers? And they still do so.

Unfortunately, most of the governments of the Islamic region, which, according to the order of Islam, must extend the hand of brotherhood to us, have risen in enmity to us and to Islam. And they are all in the service of the world-devourers and as such they are invading us from all sides. Our propaganda power is very weak and powerless. You need that because today the world lives on propaganda. And yet, most regretfully, the so-called intellectual writers who lean toward one of the two poles [of East or West], rather than think of the independence and freedom of their country and their nation, have allowed their selfishness, opportunism, and monopolism to deny them the opportunity of being able to think for a moment. And this selfishness and opportunism does not allow them to think to assess the valued honorable life against some of what they have lost, that is, the good life and permissiveness as well as dependency, servitude, and being the mouthpiece and flatterers of the epitome of corruption, tyranny, and prostitution. And this selfishness and opportunism does not allow them to refrain from hurling accusations and lies against this newly born republic and instead to employ their tongues and pens in line with the nation and the government, against the Taghuties and tyrants.

The issue of propagation is not placed on the shoulders of the Ministry of Guidance alone—it is the duty of all learned people, all speakers, writers and artists. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs must make efforts to ensure that our embassies have propaganda publications, to brighten the bright face of Islam for the peoples of the world. If that face, with its beautiful loveliness which the Koran and traditions have brought upon it, is allowed to show itself from beneath the cover of Islam's opponents and from below the wrong ideas of its friends, then Islam will conquer the whole world and its proud flag will be hoisted everywhere.

How painful it is to know that Muslims have a commodity which is unique from the beginning of the world up to its end, yet they have not been able to present this valuable gem—a gem which every human being naturally demands. They themselves are even ignorant and unaware of it and sometimes they shun it.

Among the most important issues which determine our destiny is the issue of education from kindergarten to universities. Because of its immense importance I repeat it and pass it on. The plundered nation must know that during the recent half century, the element which has dealt a fatal blow at Iran and Islam, to a great extent, has been the universities.

If the universities and other seats of learning had been run with Islamic and national programs in the interests of the country—educating, engaging in character building and training children and young people—our homeland would never have been swallowed by England and then the United States and the USSR, and devastating agreements would never have been imposed on the deprived and plundered nation. The foreign advisers would never have found their way to Iran; and Iran's resources and her black gold would never have been pocketed by the satanic powers and the Pahlavi dynasty. Its dependents would never have been able to plunder the property of the nation to build palaces and villas on the corpses of the victim people and to fill the coffers of the foreign banks and to spend the money on their corrupt life and that of their dependents.

If the Majlis and the government and the judiciary and other organs had stemmed from Islamic and national universities, our nation today would not be engulfed in devastating difficulties. If uncorrupted personalities, with Islamic and national tendency in the true sense and not in the sense which stands against Islam, had found their way into the tripartite powers from the universities then, our situation today would be different, our homeland would be different and our deprived people would be free from deprivation. In that case, the monarchist tyranny as well as the centers of corruption and addiction and dens of corruption—each of them being sufficient to destroy the young valuable and active generation—would have been removed. Then the nation would not have inherited such a legacy which destroys the country and which annihilates human beings.

If the universities were Islamic, humane, and national, then they could deliver to society hundreds and thousands of teachers. How sad and unfortunate it is that the universities and high schools were managed and our dear ones were being educated by those who all—except a deprived and victimized minority—were infatuated either by West or East. They had seats in the universities which dictated programs and designs.

As a result of that, our dear and victimized youth were brought up in the laps of these wolves who were dependent on the superpowers. They used to occupy positions in the legislature, government and judiciary. They used to act on their instructions—that is, the tyrant Pahlavi regime. Thank God, today the universities have been freed from the clutch of criminals. The nation and government of the Islamic Republic are dutybound, in all periods, not to allow the corrupt elements—who belong to schools of infidelity or have tendencies toward West or East—to infiltrate the universities, normal schools and other seats of learning. They should do so from the first step so that later no problem may ensue. Caution must be observed.

The Armed Forces—from the Army to the Guards Corps, the Gendarmerie and the police, to the Islamic Revolution Committees, the mobilization forces, and the tribal people—enjoys particular significance. These groups constitute the powerful arm of the Islamic Republic, safeguarding the borders, highways, cities, and villages. They are the guardians of the country's peace and security, and they must enjoy the special consideration of the nation, the government, and the majlis.

It is necessary for them to remember that in the world today, the destructive and big powers consider the Armed Forces to be ripe for destruction. It is the Armed Forces which has carried out coups, through political ploys. It is through their involvement that regimes and governments change. The deceitful and the [word indistinct] hire some of the Armed Forces' leaders, and in conspiracy with their deceived commanders, they take control of the countries, thereby dominating oppressed nations, depriving them of freedom and independence. If honest commanders are in control of affairs there will never be the possibility of a coup d'etat or the invasion of a country. Should such a possibility arise, the plot will be nullified in the hands of committed commanders.

The committed Armed Forces and patriotic and honest commanders had a great share in the shaping of the miracle of the era which materialized in the hands of the people. Today, after 2 years of the damned and imposed war of Saddam from Tikrit, supported by the United States and other powers, the aggressive Ba'thist army and its powerful backers are facing political and military defeat. This is again due to the armed and security forces, and due to the people's support on the frontlines and behind the frontlines. This is how the Armed Forces have brought about this great honor, making Iran proud. Furthermore, the internal mischiefs and plots—hatched by the puppets of the East and West and aimed at toppling the Islamic Republic—were nullified in the able hands of the youth from the committees, the Revolution Guards Corps, the mobilization forces, and the police force, all enjoying the zealous nation's assistance. It is these dear selfless youth who stay awake throughout the night so that families can rest in peace. May God assist them further.

In the last stages of my life, my brotherly admonition to the Armed Forces in general is this: O dear ones, who love Islam, and with that profound love are continuing to make valuable sacrifices on the frontlines and throughout the country, stay alert and be vigilant! Because the political conspirators and the professional politicians intoxicated by East or West and the mysterious hands of criminals hiding behind masks, have directed the sharp edge of their treacherous and criminal weapons from all directions at you, more than at any other group. What they seek from you, dear ones who made the revolution victorious and who rejuvenated Islam through your selflessness, is collaboration aimed at toppling the islamic republic. They seek to separate you from the nation and Islam with slogans such as: Serving Islam, the Homeland, and the Nation—in order to throw you into the hands of one of the world-devouring superpowers, and to cancel your troubles and sacrifices through their resort to political ploys with false images of Islam and nationalism.

My resolute admonition to the Armed Forces is that they must act according to the laws of the system, which state that the Armed Forces should not be members of political parties, groups, or fronts. Members of the Armed Forces—be they military, security, guards, mobilization, or whatever—should not enter any political grouping, so as to distance themselves from political games. It is only in that way that they can preserve their military might, and distance themselves from divisions and disputes. It is incumbent upon the commanders to warn their juniors against entry into political parties. As the revolution stems from all the people and its safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone, it is the religious and official duty of the nation, the government, the Supreme Defense council, and the Majlis to oppose from the outset any move from the Armed Forces—either the commanders or the rank and file—which is against the interests of Islam and the country, nor should they enter political parties or enter the arena of political games. It is incumbent upon the leader and the leadership council to prevent such moves with absolute firmness, so as to save the country from any harm.

At the end of my life in this world, I admonish all the Armed Forces to remain resilient in their loyalty to Islam, which is the sole school of freedom and independence, and which God has bestowed on us. In this way you can salvage your nation from the shame of dependency upon powers who seek to enslave you and who seek to keep your beloved country and nation backward as a market for their consumer goods, and as a nation which tolerates oppression and tyranny. You must prefer a humane and proud life, despite its difficulties, to a shameless life of slaving for foreigners—despite its beastly pleasures. You must know that if you stll have to ask others for advanced technology, passing this life like a beggar, the ability to innovate and progress will not come to you.

During this short time, after the imposition of the economic embargo, you witnessed that the very people who considered themselves incapable of making anything and running any of the factories, began to marshal their ideas, thereby meeting many of the needs of the military and industry. The war and the economic embargo—as the foreign experts have themselves confessed—was God's blessing which we received. Now if the governments and the army impose an embargo on the commodities of the world-devourers and at the same time make greater endeavors in innovation, there is hope that this country will attain self-sufficiency and rid itself of the grip of the enemy.

I hasten to add here that our requirements from the big industries of foreign countries—after such a long period of patent backwardness—is an undisputable fact. However, this does not mean that we must become dependent upon one of the poles of power in order to learn about advanced sciences. The military and the government should try to send committed students to those countries which have big and advanced industries and which are not colonialists or exploiters. They must refrain from sending students to the United States or the USSR and other countries which are in line with those two poles. God willing, a day will come when those two powers will realize their mistakes, and will begin respecting the rights of other humans, and will tread the path of humanity. Or, God willing, the world's oppressed people and the alert nations and the committed Muslims will teach them a lesson. We hope for such a day.

The radio and television, the press, cinema and theaters are all effective means for belittling and destroying nations, especially the younger generation. During the last few years these means were extensively used for major plans, be they propaganda against Islam or the serving clergy or to propagate the ideas of Eastern and Western colonialists. These methods were used to create a market for luxury goods of all kinds to decorate buildings, or for imitation fabrics among rich or well-off ladies—and Western words were used so often in conversation and written texts that they were incomprehensible to the majority of people. Television films were produced by the West or East, and they deviated the young men and women from the normal process of life, drawing them to alienation from self or dragging them to cynicism about everything, such as their country, culture and literature, a lot of which were transformed in the libraries of East and West in the hands of hireling agents. Magazines, articles, or shameful pictures and anti-cultural and anti-Islamic articles in newspapers dragged the people, especially the younger generation, towards East or West.

One must also add that there was the spread of centers of corruption, such as gambling and vice centers and shops displaying luxury goods, gambling equipment and intoxicating drinks, especially goods imported from the West using money earned from oil and gas and other resources; and hundreds of other things that people like me do not know about.

If, God forbid, the hireling and destructive regime of Pahlavi had stayed in power, it would not have been long before our brave youth—these children of Islam whom the people are looking to—would have fled the embrace of the nation and Islam, thanks to all the Satanic ploys by the hands of the corrupt regime, the mass media and the Western or Eastern orientated intellectuals; or they would have wasted their youth in centers of corruption; or they would have begun serving the interests of the world-devouring powers, drawing the country toward destruction.

Now my admonition to the Majlis, the president and future presidents, the Council of Guardians, the Judicial Council and to the government is that they should not allow these media organs and the press to deviate from Islam and the path dictated by the country's interests. We must all know that freedom in its Western guise, which causes the moral demise of the young men and girls, is rejected and condemned by Islam. Furthermore, magazines, speeches and propaganda which are contrary to Islam and social decency and the country's interests are religiously forbidden. It is incumbent on us and all Muslims to prevent such propaganda, and destructive freedoms must be curtailed. Everyone will be responsible if things which are forbidden by religion and are contrary to the interests of Islamic countries and to the honor of the Islamic Republic are not firmly prevented.

If the Hezbollah youth and people encounter one of the mentioned cases, they should inform the responsible organs. Should these organs display complacency, the people themselves are responsible for preventing it. I hope that God Almighty grants assistance to everyone.

Nepal

Government To Prolong University Closures

BK0506002389 Hong Kong AFP in English
1737 GMT 4 Jun 89

[Text] Kathmandu, June 4 (AFP)—The government has decided to prolong the closure of universities in what observers said was an apparent bid to avoid anti-government agitation by students.

Kathmandu authorities imposed a ban on public meetings in the city following anti-Indian and anti-government demonstrations by students on April 2.

On April 3, Tribhuvan University and Mahandra Sanskrit University announced that they would close all campuses because of the oil crisis in Nepal following the March 23 expiration of trade and transit treaty with India. The treaty has not been renewed.

A Ministry of Education official said Sunday [4 June] the closure would be prolonged.

Student leaders Sunday issued a joint statement denouncing the government for closing campuses throughout the country indefinitely on the pretext that there was a shortage of kerosene oil and petroleum products.

The student leaders also demanded the immediate release of over 250 students detained throughout the country and the withdrawal of all the cases filed against them.

The closure has affected over 85,000 students in over 100 campuses within and outside Kathmandu and half a dozen educational institutions under Tribhuvan University, said officials.

The student leaders said in the statement that the closure had deprived the students of academic freedoms and playing with the future of the country's younger generation.

Observers here said the government had decided to prolong the closure of schools to avoid a local impact of the pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing, which were put down Sunday by the People's Liberation Army.

Former Minister Sentenced for Abusing Authority

BK0206150589 Kathmandu External Service in English 1415 GMT 2 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Commission for Prevention of Abuse of Authority—CPAA—has sentenced former minister for forest and soil conservation, Hem Bahadur Malla, to 1 and ½ years' imprisonment on the conviction of allowing higher quantity of timber than authorized by him in his capacity as the minister of his majesty's government. [sentence as heard] The commission has also decided to realize from him 32,150,632 rupees. The [word indistinct] commissioners—Sarbagya Raj Pandit and Phanindra Prasad Acharya—have, however, acquitted Malla of the charge of trying to run a stone quarry for export purposes after felling the trees.

The commission has fined 5,000 rupees each to 40 persons implicated in the timber case. It has acquitted eight defendants in the case relating to stone quarry. [passage omitted]

Further on Sentencing

BK0206104089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1007 GMT 2 Jun 89

[Text] Kathmandu, June 2 (AFP)—Former Nepalese forestry minister Hem Bahadur Malla has been sentenced to 18 months in prison after being found guilty of abusing his authority, officials said Friday [2 June].

Mr. Malla, 58, a member of the National Panchayat, or parliament, was sentenced to jail following a 14-month investigation by the high-powered Commission for the Prevention of Abuse of Authority (CPAA), they said.

He was also fined a total of 32.1 million Nepalese rupees (1.2 million U.S. dollars), the commission officials said.

Mr. Malla, an MP [member of parliament] from Dhanusa District, 290 kilometers (180 miles) southeast of Kathmandu, served as minister of agriculture from June 1986 to March 1987 and as forestry minister from March 1987 to May 1988.

CPAA commissioners Sarbagya Raj Pandit and Phanindra Prasad Acharya, in their joint verdict, said Mr. Malla had allowed furniture manufacturers and other businessmen to buy timber at the government's subsidized price. The government's subsidized price for timber is nearly 60 percent lower than that on the open market.

Mr. Malla was acquitted of a charge of trying to set up a stone quarry for exports to Bangladesh and India after clearing jungle through excessive tree felling, officials said.

A total of 40 other people implicated in the timber case have been fined 5,000 Nepalese rupees (197 U.S. dollars) each by the CPAA while eight other defendants in the quarry case have been acquitted.

Mr. Malla has been in judicial custody for the last 14 months.

Pakistan

Further Reportage on Bhutto's Visit to U.S.

Talks With Bush Noted

BK0706025989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and President Bush held detailed discussions at the White House last night. President Bush reaffirmed U.S. support for the democratic process in Pakistan. Emphasizing the importance of relations between the two countries, the U.S. President said these relations are not based on Afghanistan alone.

Later, talking to newsmen, the U.S. President reaffirmed U.S. assistance for the security and economic development of Pakistan. He highly appreciated the historic restoration of democracy in Pakistan, saying that the U.S. people view it with great respect.

President Bush appreciated the extraordinary assistance being provided by Pakistan to Afghan refugees and called for a political solution of the Afghan problem. The President said he discussed with Prime Minister Bhutto the establishment of an impartial government in Afghanistan, which will create stability in South Asia.

President Bush said: We also reviewed efforts for the promotion of stability in South Asia and supported Pakistan-India efforts to improve their bilateral relations. He called for avoiding a regional nuclear arms race in the Indian subcontinent.

President Bush also appreciated Pakistan's determination to control narcotics smuggling and stressed the need for large-scale efforts to end this menace.

The U.S. President said the Pakistani prime minister has emphatically stated that Pakistan's nuclear program is of a peaceful nature.

Prime Minister Bhutto said: We had positive, useful, and constructive talks. We have a complete understanding with regard to the solution of the Afghanistan problem. We want a political settlement of the Afghan problem, which would enable the valiant Afghan people to exercise their right to elect a government of their own choice without any outside interference. Benazir Bhutto said she has informed the U.S. President of the efforts consistently being made by Pakistan to maintain peace and stability and to strengthen the process of checking the proliferation of nuclear arms in the region. Although a beginning has been made toward ending the narcotics menace, much remains to be done in this regard, the prime minister added.

Spokesman on Bush-Bhutto Talks

BK0706070789 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Pakistan hopes that the Bush Administration will respond positively to Islamabad's request to purchase 60 F-16 fighter aircraft. This was stated by a Pakistani delegation spokesman at a news briefing on Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's talks with President Bush in Washington. The spokesman said the two leaders also exchanged views on the nuclear issue, keeping in view the importance of preventing a regional nuclear arms race in South Asia. The United States (?appreciated) Pakistan's position regarding a regional solution to this issue, which has encouraged Pakistan.

Answering a question, the spokesman said President Bush emphasized that the United States is always interested in providing economic aid to Pakistan.

During the talks, the two countries decided to work jointly in connection with the narcotics problem. The United States is fully satisfied with the efforts being made by the present Pakistani government to effectively deal with this problem. The prime minister's adviser on narcotics, Karim Gul Khan, told newsmen that the United States is ready to assist in establishing a (?force) for narcotics control and in making effective arrangements to identify narcotics smugglers.

The minister of state for education, Begum Shahnaz Wazir Ali, briefed newsmen on an agreement for $360 million in aid which will be spent on a primary education program in Pakistan.

Pakistan and the United States have reaffirmed their support to the Afghan mujahidin's struggle for the realization of their right of self-determination and for a political solution of the Afghan problem, so that a nonaligned representative government can be established in Afghanistan.

The spokesman told newsmen that in Benazir Bhutto's talks with President Bush the two sides agreed to work together and maintain coordination of their views on this issue through mutual consultations.

Further on Talks

BK0706084489 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Pakistan and the United States have reaffirmed their continued support to the struggle for self-determination of the Afghan people and encourage a political solution that would lead to setting up a nonaligned representative government in Afghanistan. A Pakistani spokesman briefing newsmen on Prime Minister Ms Benazir Bhutto's talks with President Bush said the American military support to Afghan mujahidin would continue as long as necessary, until its objectives were realized. The spokesman said both the United States and Pakistan want a political settlement, because a military solution was not possible. But a military pressure may be necessary to prompt a political solution.

Asked if there was any divergence in U.S. and Pakistani approach to the Afghan issue, the spokesman replied, there is none.

President Ishaq Khan Returns From Tehran

BK0706031889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] President Ghulam Ishaq Khan returned to Islamabad last night after representing Pakistan at the funeral ceremony of the Iranian spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, in Tehran. Talking to newsmen while on his way home, the president said the purpose of his visit to Tehran on this tragic occasion was to offer condolences on behalf of the people and the Government of Pakistan, which reflects the special relationship between the two countries.

Ghulam Ishaq Khan said the new Iranian leadership has assured him that they will work for further strengthening the existing close relationship between Pakistan and Iran. He and the Iranian leaders also exchanged views on the Afghanistan situation, the president added.

Bhutto Congratulates Iran's 'Ali Khamen'i

BK0706013289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has congratulated the Iranian president, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, on his election as the supreme leader of Iran. In a message to 'Ali

Khamene'i, the prime minister expressed confidence that under his leadership, the existing friendly relations between Pakistan and Iran will grow stronger, to the mutual benefit of the people of the two fraternal countries.

Protest Lodged Over Afghan Scud Missile Firing

BK0606155889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] Pakistan has strongly protested to the Kabul regime over the firing of the Scud missile from Afghanistan territory, which fell near Bhakkar on 22 May. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this afternoon and a protest note was handed to him. He was asked to convey to Kabul authorities that, if such attacks do not stop, the responsibility for the serious consequences will rest with them.

Protests were also lodged with the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan over this violation of the Geneva Accords.

PPP 'Capable' of Meeting Opposition Challenge

BK0606025789 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] A spokesman of the Pakistan People's Party's [PPP] parliamentary group has said that the PPP enjoys substantial majority in the National Assembly and is fully capable of meeting any attempts [as heard] of the newly formed joint parliament group of the opposition political parties.

The spokesman said in Islamabad yesterday that Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi is the leader of the opposition group, which is an alliance of parties with diverse views and programs and with different outlooks on basic issues. This kind of alliance is not in keeping with the democratic process, he added.

Budget for Year 1989-90 Announced

BK0306162489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 3 Jun 89

[All figures as heard]

[Excerpts] The new federal budget, which was announced this evening, provides 56 billion rupees for development programs in public sectors with emphasis on education, rural development, and power sectors. It is expected that the Public Sector Corporation will spend another 15 billion rupees on development work against 9 billion rupees during the current fiscal year. The minister of state for finance and economic affairs, Mr Ehasanul Haq Piracha, presenting the first budget of the elected government, said in his speech, which was broadcast live from the National Assembly, that the immediate objectives fixed by the democratic government to put the economy back on the rails include controlling inflation, reducing the budget deficit, and achieving a better balance in external payments.

The next fiscal year has been declared a year of austerity in which unjustified expenditure will be significantly reduced. The federal government expenditure has been reduced from the current 20.2 billion rupees to 17.3 billion. However, defense expenditure, which receives first priority, does not face any cuts. The minister of state for finance clarified that the government never thought of adopting an easy way of proposing a soft budget to gain popularity, neither did it try to fulfill all developmental needs by allowing nonproductive expenditure and unbearable sacrifices. The federal budget reflects the middle course, which reduces the budget deficit through the control of expenditures and creation of resources.

Referring to three priority sectors, the minister of state said that the fund for education has been increased from 1.17 billion rupees to 1.97 billion rupees, most of which will be spent on primary education to fulfill the very basic obligation of the state. Technical and professional training will be emphasized along with science and technology. A new institution with the name of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology will be created.

The power sector gets 15.3 billion rupees, while it was 13.7 billion rupees in the current fiscal year reflecting an increase of more than 19 percent. This demonstrates the present government's determination to end load shedding [of power supply] by evolving a new strategy that least affects the economy adversely. Power stations based on local (?resources), coal, and low quality gas will also be set up. After an agreement on the distribution of water is concluded, work will begin on small hydroelectric projects and Kalabagh dam. The government will supply power to a large number of villages in line with fulfilling its pledges. The private sector is also being invited to participate in the power sector development in a big way.

The People's Program, already started by the government, gets 3 billion rupees for the next fiscal year.

Many concessions have been announced for different sections of the population in the 1989-90 budget. All employees up to grade 16 will get an interim raise of 5 percent of their basic salary which will cost the exchequer 1.87 billion rupees. About 40 million rupees have been provided to meet the demands of the nationalized banks officers. This will end the differences between their allowances [and that of the private bank officers]. The Media Foundation will be set up at the cost of 10 million rupees for the welfare of the mass media employees. Similarly, it has been decided to set up the Teachers Foundation for the welfare of teachers for which 20 million rupees have been allocated. The Workers Welfare Fund gets 50 million rupees during the next fiscal year. The government has decided to continue the (?agriculture) fund for which new legislation will be enacted. A plan is also being prepared by the Agriculture Development Bank for implementing a crop insurance scheme for which the government will provide a grant of 30 million rupees.

To finance a telecommunications development project, the local telephone rate has been increased from 80 paise to 90 paise. Similarly, the monthly fees for the subscribers' trunk dialing system line has been increased from 30 rupees to 35 rupees and international subscribers' trunk dialling system line from 55 rupees to 150 rupees. As a result of these measures, 395.4 million rupees will be earned.

[Passage omitted]. He said the passport fee will be increased from 200 rupees to 300 and the endorsement fee is enhanced from 40 rupees to 60 rupees. For urgent passports, the fee will be 900 rupees and the endorsement fee will be 100. The cost of aviation fuel has also been revised. However, this decision will not apply to the tax on ordinary petrol and diesel.

Some changes have been effected in the income tax system, and the tax base has been expanded. [passage omitted]

Several concessions and incentives have been given to the national industry. Concessions have been granted on customs duty on the import of the raw materials, equipment, and spare parts for electrical appliances and sales tax on them. These concessions will apply to all factories manufacturing these things throughout Pakistan. At present, these facilities have been granted only to the factories in Northwest Frontier Province and Islamabad.

Electronics-based equipment is being exempted from customs duty and sales tax. The extent of the scheme of basic industries has been limited to five industries, including bio-technology, fiber optics, solar energy, fertilizers, and electronic industries.

The concessions granted to underdeveloped areas have also been revised. [passage omitted].

Customs duties have been reduced by 20 percent on raw materials for the manufacture of various kinds of [words indistinct] and plastic fiber. There is a proposal to grant an exemption in customs duties for such mining equipment that do not have any other use and that cannot be manufactured domestically. [passage omitted].

The customs duties on electric motor-operated fork lift trucks has been reduced to 20 percent. Refrigerators, sterilizers, and operating tables, which have been used in hospital and blood banks are exempted from customs duty. There is a proposal to impose a 10-percent ad valorum duty on immovable property and motor vehicles, which have not been used for hire and which are the property of a person who does not pay income tax. [passage omitted]

The prime minister has decided that small farmers be given loans at the rate of 7 percent. The federal government has directed the provincial government to end the water tax on small farmers. The federal government will continue the policy of price supports in the agriculture sector and crop insurance will be introduced on a trial basis.

Many new employment opportunities will be created through the government's industrialization policy and private sector investment. Efforts will also be made to find employment for workers in the Middle East. Promotion of industries in the private sector will be undertaken in a phased manner, and it is expected that 3 billion rupees will be [words indistinct] in the next fiscal year.

A stock exchange will be opened in Islamabad.

A joint Pakistan-United Arab Emirates investment company will be set up, and six private parties will open investment banks. [passage omitted]

Of the 56 billion rupees allocated for development programs [in the public sector] 39.90 billion rupees, which is 71 percent of the fund, will be spent for the federal programs and the remaining will be spent on provincial programs. Mr Ehsanul Haq Piracha said that the enforcement of new taxes will provide an additional income of 6.58 billion rupees, while other measures will yield 2.62 billion rupees, making total revenue income 9.20 billion rupees. This will leave a budget deficit of 4 billion rupees that will be met through loans from the banks, which is 0.46 percent of the gross domestic product, which falls within the limit.

Later, the minister of state for finance moved the National Finance Bill 1989 in the National Assembly.

The National Assembly will now meet on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka

Council Opposes Premadasa Withdrawal Statement

BK0606130989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Text] The Northeastern Provincial Council of Sri Lanka has urged President Premadasa to unconditionally take back his statement on the withdrawal of the [Indian] Peacekeeping Force [PKF]. In a resolution passed at the emergency meeting held in Trincomalee today, the council criticized the statement and said it was made unilaterally, and warned of the serious consequences if the PKF is withdrawn now. It also demanded the withdrawal of Sri Lankan Armed Forces from the area.

EPRLF Leader Against Premadasa's IPKF Stand

BK0706130289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] The EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front] secretary general, Mr Padmanabha, said that the [Indian] Peacekeeping Force should not be withdrawn until the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement is fully implemented. In an interview to the AIR [ALL INDIA RADIO] correspondent, Sebastian Robert, in Trincomalee today, he said President Premadasa's statement appears to be the first stage set by his government to abrogate the agreement. He said his party is against disintegration of Sri Lanka. But it would become unavoidable if the Sri Lanka Government abrogates the agreement and again lets loose terror against Tamils.

Mr Padmanabha said without adequate devolution of power to the provincial councils there cannot be permanent peace in the region. He alleged that the Sri Lanka Government is supplying arms to the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] instead of bringing them to the democratic path.

16 Killed in Fresh Tamil Rebel Violence

BK0706060889 Hong Kong AFP in English 0513 GMT 6 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Colombo, June 7 (AFP)—At least 16 people including an Indian Army major have died in fresh violence involving Tamil guerrillas in northern Sri Lanka, officials and rebel sources here said Wednesday.

Fighters of the dominant Tamil separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), killed the major and another soldier in a gunbattle in Vadarawatte village Tuesday, rebel sources said.

They said Tiger militants lost two of their own men in combat while eight civilians perished when rampaging troops torched some 10 houses immediately after the firefight.

Indian officials here said four more LTTE men were shot dead in a separate confrontation in nearby Kodikamam area Tuesday. Arms and ammunition were captured from the dead guerrillas, officials said. [passage omitted]

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